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News Release

January 3, 1936

RELEASE OF THE CO-CHAIRMAN REPORT OF THE SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

LACKING SEVERAL ISSUES

Foreign Affairs Minister Andrew Cohen, Deputy Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson and International Trade Minister Joe Flaherty today announced that they had received the report of the second session of the forum's co-chairmen, which was presented to them at a meeting attended by more than 100 people from across Canada. The forum was held in Toronto, September 19-20, 1955. The forum was organized and sponsored by the Canadian Council on International Relations, a body of the twenty-first century.

The forum report confirms the general impression of the international institutions, particularly the United Nations, that Canada's security, prosperity and well-being are best served by a policy of international co-operation and co-operation. The report suggests that Canada should play a leadership role in the world, and that it should be more active in the United Nations and other international organizations. The report also suggests that Canada should provide technical and professional assistance to other countries, particularly in the field of international trade and commerce. The report also suggests that Canada should support the United Nations and other international organizations in their efforts to promote international peace and security. The report also suggests that Canada should support the United Nations and other international organizations in their efforts to promote international trade and commerce.

In thanking the co-chairmen and other participants, the Minister said that they would forward the report to the Prime Minister and the President of the United States. He also said that he would be pleased to discuss the report with the President of the United States. He also said that he would be pleased to discuss the report with the President of the United States.

The National Forum is one of the many ways in which the government is seeking to improve its international relations. The forum is a body of the twenty-first century. The forum is a body of the twenty-first century.

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News Release

January 3, 1996

No. 1

RELEASE OF THE CO-CHAIRS' REPORT OF THE SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, Defence Minister David Collenette and International Trade Minister Roy MacLaren today announced that they have received the Report and Recommendations of the Second National Forum on Canada's International Relations from the Forum's co-chairpersons, Lorna Marsden and Jean Monty. Attended by more than 100 people from across Canada, the Forum was held in Toronto, September 10-11, 1995. The theme was *Canada and International Institutions: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century*.

The Forum Report reaffirms the central importance of international institutions, particularly the United Nations, to Canada's security, prosperity and well-being. The Report suggests that Canada should play a lead role in promoting greater efficiency and transparency among international institutions, and provide focussed and performance-based support to international institutions. The Report also recognizes the need for policy and program coherence and the elimination of duplication among international organizations. Stressing the need for rules-based international trading regimes, the Report urges continued support for the World Trade Organization.

In thanking the co-chairs and Forum participants, the ministers said that they would forward the Report to members of Parliament, ministers and government officials. Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet also indicated that the Report would be referred to the Advisory Board for Foreign Policy Outreach, the formation of which he announced at the Forum.

The National Forum is part of the Government's commitment to open foreign policy formulation to the public. The Government also considers that policy implementation can benefit from ongoing assessment in times of constant change in the international environment. The Advisory Board for Foreign Policy Outreach is



part of that process. Chaired by University of Toronto Professor Janice Gross Stein, the Advisory Board has been asked to make recommendations to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on foreign policy consultation, research and outreach.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874

To obtain a printed copy of the report or to access it by electronic means:

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

1. Call Centre Hot-Line/Walk-in Centre
1-800-267-8376 or (613) 944-4000 in the Ottawa/Hull region.
2. FaxLink Domestic and International
Users may call from a fax machine and interact with the system using the Touch-Tone key pad on their phones: FaxLink Domestic (613) 944-4500; FaxLink International (613) 944-6500. The only costs are the applicable long-distance charges.
3. InfoCentre Bulletin Board (IBB)
To access the system, you need a computer, modem, telephone line and basic communications software. Dial (613) 944-1581 or 1-800-628-1581 (toll-free applies if in Canada) to access the site and register on-line.
4. Internet Web/Gopher Service
You can access the Department's Internet site at:
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>.

Canadian International Development Agency

Internet site: <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca>

National Defence

Internet site: <http://www.dnd.ca/>

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News Release

January 5, 1996

No. 2

OUELLET TO ATTEND MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIANS

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet will attend the Ministerial Conference on Assistance to the Palestinians in Paris, France, on January 9.

"Canada is committed to a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East," said Mr. Ouellet. "We are actively involved in multilateral efforts to improve living conditions for Palestinians in the region and we are proud to chair the Refugee Working Group." The Refugee Working Group is one of five multilateral groups created in 1992 as part of the Middle East Peace Process.

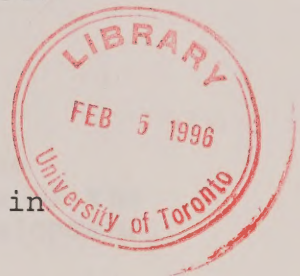
Canada is one of over 40 countries, including Israel and many of its neighbours, that provide assistance to the Palestinians and help create the framework for peace.

Ministers and senior officials from donor and regional countries and the Palestinian Authority, including its Chairman, Yasser Arafat, will attend the meeting, hosted by French Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette.

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News Release

January 10, 1996

No. 3

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced the appointments of two new members to the Board of Directors of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development.

Kenneth David Crawford has practised law in Halifax, Nova Scotia, for the past several years. Mr. Crawford has held many provincial, municipal and school board appointments, including successive terms as a commissioner and Vice-Chair of the Halifax Water Commission. He has served as Chairperson of the Mayor's Task Force on Community and Race Relations as well as on various professional committees of the Nova Scotia Bar Council. He has been actively involved in the Black community in Nova Scotia through various business, legal and cultural organizations. In 1992, Mr. Crawford was appointed as Chairperson to adjudicate complaints under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act.

Raymonde Folco is a former president of the Conseil des communautés culturelles et de l'immigration, an agency of the Quebec provincial government. Among her international activities, Ms. Folco was most recently a Canadian delegate to the Organization of American States, acting as an observer of the legislative elections in Haiti and Côte d'Ivoire. She has also been a Canadian delegate to the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (Washington, D.C.) for a mission to the Central African Republic and the Republic of the Congo that presented the Canadian democratic process to the political parties in those countries. Ms. Folco has an extensive background in communications and education, specifically language training development. She has published widely on a range of immigration, language, social and cultural issues, particularly those relating to ethnocultural communities. Ms. Folco was also a candidate in the last federal election.

The International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development is an independent body established by an Act of



Parliament in 1988. It provides persons and organizations in other countries with training, advice and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in the democratic process. Ten of the 13 members of the Centre's Board of Directors are appointed by the Government of Canada. Three nationals of developing countries are appointed by the Board itself.

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News Release

January 14, 1996

No. 4

CANADIAN AND ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON PROPOSED FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced today that Canadian and Israeli negotiators have reached a tentative agreement on the proposed free trade agreement between the two countries.

The tentative agreement, which must now be reviewed by both governments, would establish a free trade regime between Canada and Israel featuring full tariff elimination on all manufactured goods and an agricultural and fisheries package involving goods of export interest to each country.

The agreement is still in draft form, and officials will continue to work at the technical level in the coming weeks. Details about specific provisions of the agreement will be released once the text is finalized and approved by both governments. It could go into effect on July 1, 1996.

The initiation of negotiations was announced by Prime Minister Chrétien on November 24, 1994, following a meeting in Ottawa with the late Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin.

A free trade agreement with Israel will ensure Canada has access to the Israeli market on terms equivalent to those of the United States and the European Union, which already have free trade arrangements with Israel.

"This agreement will enable Canadian companies pursuing business opportunities in Israel to compete on an equal footing with their international competitors," Mr. MacLaren said.

The agreement will apply to the West Bank and Gaza by virtue of the customs union negotiated between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Canada has offered to negotiate free trade agreements



with other countries in the Middle East. Liberalized trade would contribute to economic development in the region and further the Middle East peace process.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874

News Release

January 17, 1996

No. 5

CANADA ANNOUNCES ANTI-PERSONNEL LAND MINES MEASURES

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Defence Minister David Collenette today announced that Canada is declaring comprehensive unilateral moratoriums on the production, export and operational use of anti-personnel land mines.

"Canadians are appalled by the ongoing tragedy caused by the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel land mines. With these moratoriums in place, Canada moves to the forefront of countries seeking a global ban on these weapons. We hope others will follow," said Mr. Ouellet.

"Anti-personnel land mines sown at random with no regard for the laws of war have become a scourge of humanity. Canada has not been part of the problem, but we will certainly be part of the solution," stated Mr. Collenette.

These domestic measures complement Canada's ongoing diplomatic efforts to promote universal adherence to a strengthened Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Canada is now at the forefront of a growing number of countries that have moved to restrict or declare moratoriums on the use, production and export of anti-personnel land mines.

Canada is working to increase restrictions on the use of land mines until these weapons are eliminated from the world's arsenals. The Canadian Forces have played a leading role in numerous demining operations around the world to eliminate the danger posed by anti-personnel land mines.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
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Media Liaison Office
Department of National Defence
(613) 996-2353



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News Release

January 17, 1996

No. 6

OUELLET ANNOUNCES OBSERVER MISSION TO FIRST ELECTIONS TO THE PALESTINIAN COUNCIL

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Canada is sending an 11-member Observer Mission to the first elections to the Palestinian Council, to be held on January 20.

"These elections are a key element of the Middle East Peace Process and constitute an important step in the development of democracy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. An international presence during the vote will contribute to achieving a free and fair result which, in turn, will enhance the long-term political stability of the region," said Mr. Ouellet.

Mr. Ouellet added that this mission reflects the priority Canada attaches to international democratic development. It is part of a broader program of technical support for the electoral process in the West Bank and Gaza.

Along with Canada, ten countries and five international organizations were invited under the interim Israeli-Palestinian agreement of September 28, 1995, to observe the elections. These are: Cyprus, Egypt, Japan, Jordan, Norway, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, the United States; and the European Union (EU), the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations. The EU has agreed to co-ordinate the work of the international observers.

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A list of the members of the Canadian Observer Mission is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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OFFICIAL MEMBERS THE CANADIAN OBSERVER MISSION

Ms. Colleen Beaumier, M.P.
Ms. Shaughnessy Cohen, M.P.
Ms. Suehila Elkateb, consultant
Mr. Shawky Fahel, businessman
Mr. Roger Gallaway, M.P.
Mr. Ovid Jackson, M.P.
Dr. Bahgat Korany, professor
Mr. Michael Lynk, lawyer
Ms. Carrol Parrish, M.P.
Ms. Barbara Shenstone, NGO
Mr. Michael Shenstone, former ambassador

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News Release

January 17, 1996

No. 7

CANADA CALLS FOR RESTRAINT AND FOR THE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE CHECHNYA CONFLICT

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today expressed deep concern over the situation in the southern Russian village of Pervomaiskoe, where Russian Interior Ministry troops have been engaged in a three-day operation to resolve the hostage-taking crisis initiated last week by terrorists seeking independence for the neighbouring republic of Chechnya.

"President Yeltsin faces a difficult situation, but further bloodshed can only complicate the search for a durable solution to the conflict in Chechnya," Mr. Ouellet said. "I urge all parties to exercise restraint and resume negotiations toward a lasting political settlement."

Responding to reports of additional hostage takings by Chechen sympathizers, including the hijacking of a passenger ferry on the Black Sea, Mr. Ouellet noted that Canada condemns the use of violence to attain political ends, and called for the immediate release of all hostages.

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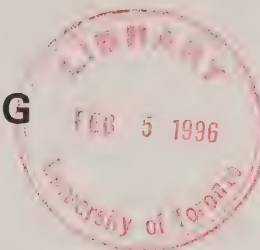


News Release

January 18, 1996

No. 8

CANADA AMENDS ORDER BLOCKING U.S. TRADE RESTRICTIONS



Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Justice Minister and Attorney General of Canada Allan Rock today announced that Canada has amended a 1992 order designed to block attempts by the United States to restrict trade between Cuba and U.S.-owned subsidiaries based in Canada.

The original order, signed October 9, 1992 and issued under the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act, has been revised by the Attorney General with the concurrence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to cover all extraterritorial U.S. measures taken at all levels of government aimed at impeding trade between Canada and Cuba.

The amended order applies to trade in services, including technology, in addition to goods. It also broadens the definition of trade between Canada and Cuba by obliging U.S. subsidiaries in Canada to deal on a normal business basis with "specially designated nationals." This designation has been used by the United States to prohibit certain Canadian companies, which do business in Cuba, from doing any business in Canada with subsidiaries of U.S. companies.

"We have made it clear time and again to the U.S. Congress and Administration that Canada will not tolerate any interference in the sovereignty of Canadian laws," said Mr. Ouellet. "Canada will continue to monitor actions by the United States to ensure that the interests of Canadian businesses are protected."

Mr. Rock said: "This is part of our ongoing policy to resist intrusions of U.S. law into Canada, which would negatively affect the conduct of Canadian trade abroad. Canadian companies will carry out Canadian business under the laws and regulations of Canada, and not those of a foreign country." The order further requires these companies to report to the Attorney General of



Canada any instructions or attempts to influence their trade with Cuba.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874

Irène Arseneau
Communications and Executive Services
Department of Justice
(613) 957-4207

ORDER REQUIRING PERSONS IN CANADA TO GIVE NOTICE OF
COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO, AND PROHIBITING SUCH PERSONS
FROM COMPLYING WITH, AN EXTRATERRITORIAL MEASURE OF THE
UNITED STATES THAT ADVERSELY AFFECTS TRADE OR COMMERCE
BETWEEN CANADA AND CUBA

(as amended)

SHORT TITLE

1. This Order may be cited as the *Foreign Extraterritorial Measures (United States) Order, 1992*.

INTERPRETATION

2. In this Order,

"Canadian corporation" means a corporation that is registered or incorporated under the laws of Canada or of a province and that carries on business in whole or in part in Canada; (*personne morale canadienne*)

"extraterritorial measure of the United States" means

(a) the *Cuban Assets Control Regulations*, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 31, Part 515, as amended from time to time or replaced, and

(b) any law, statute, regulation, by-law, ordinance, order, judgment, ruling, resolution, denial of authorization, directive, guideline or other enactment, instrument, decision or communication having a purpose similar to that of the *Cuban Assets Control Regulations* referred to in paragraph (a), whether enacted, passed, made, done, voted, established, issued, rendered, given, taken or executed by any legislative, executive, administrative, regulatory, judicial or quasi-judicial authority or body of the United States, the District of Columbia or any of the member states or territories or possessions of the United States, or any municipality or other local authority in the United States or its territories or possessions,

to the extent that they operate or are likely to operate so as to prevent, impede or reduce trade or commerce between Canada and Cuba; (*mesure extraterritoriale des États-Unis*)

"trade or commerce between Canada and Cuba" means trade or commerce, including the free exchange of goods and services, between Canada, or Canadian nationals, corporations or other legal entities or federal, provincial or local government institutions, and

(a) Cuba, or Cuban nationals, corporations or other legal entities or national, provincial or local government institutions, or

(b) Canadian nationals or corporations that are designated as, deemed to be, or otherwise treated as, Cuban nationals or corporations by or pursuant to an extraterritorial measure of the United States, whether by the use of the expression "designated national" or "specially designated national" or in any other manner. (*commerce ou échanges entre le Canada et Cuba*)

NOTICE

3. (1) Every Canadian corporation and every director and officer of a Canadian corporation shall forthwith give notice to the Attorney General of Canada of any directive, instruction, intimation of policy or other communication relating to an extraterritorial measure of the United States in respect of any trade or commerce between Canada and Cuba that the Canadian corporation, director or officer has received from a person who is in a position to direct or influence the policies of the Canadian corporation in Canada.

(2) The notice referred to in subsection (1) may be given by an authorized agent of the Canadian corporation, director or officer.

4. The notice referred to in section 3 shall be sent by registered mail to the Attorney General of Canada at Ottawa and set out

(a) the name or names and capacity of the person or persons giving notice under subsection 3(1) or on whose behalf notice is given under subsection 3(2), and in the latter case the names, capacity and address of the agent;

(b) the name or names and capacity of the person or persons from whom the communication originated;

(c) the full text or, if it is not in writing, the purport of the communication;

(d) the date or dates when the communication was received; and

(e) the period during which the communication is intended to be in effect.

PROHIBITION

5. No Canadian corporation and no director, officer, manager or employee in a position of authority of a Canadian corporation shall, in respect of any trade or commerce between Canada and Cuba, comply with an extraterritorial measure of the United States or with any directive, instruction, intimation of policy or other communication relating to such a measure that the Canadian corporation or director, officer, manager or employee has received from a person who is in a position to direct or influence the policies of the Canadian corporation in Canada.

6. Section 5 applies in respect of any act or omission constituting compliance, in respect of any trade or commerce between Canada and Cuba, with an extraterritorial measure of the United States or a communication referred to in that section, whether or not compliance with that measure or communication is the only purpose of the act or omission.

WARNING NOTE

Users of this consolidation are reminded that it is prepared for convenience of reference only and that, as such, it has no official sanction.

News Release

January 21, 1996

No. 9

OUELLET PLEASED WITH CONDUCT OF PALESTINIAN ELECTIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today expressed satisfaction with the orderly manner in which the Palestinian elections of January 20, 1996, were carried out. Judging by preliminary reports, the voters were able to freely exercise their franchise on voting day. With a few exceptions, voter turnout was high.

"These first Palestinian elections are a key element in the Middle East peace process and a historic step in building a democratic society," said Mr. Ouellet. "They afford proof that the march toward peace is continuing, and that the destiny of the Palestinians is being taken into their own hands as the peace negotiations progress."

The fact that these elections were held, added Mr. Ouellet, is proof of the respect that exists for the various agreements concluded so far between Israelis and Palestinians. He expressed the hope that they would lead to a positive outcome in the negotiations on permanent status, scheduled to begin by May 1996.

Canada played an active part in organizing and observing these elections, having sent 11 observers as part of an international mission. The observers will make a detailed report to Mr. Ouellet when they return to Canada.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

January 24, 1996

No. 10

OUELLET WELCOMES RELEASE OF REPORT ON DECOMMISSIONING OF ARMS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet welcomed the release in Belfast today of the report of the International Body on the Decommissioning of Arms in Northern Ireland.

"The work of this three-member international body represents a valuable contribution to the peace process in Northern Ireland, a matter of importance for many Canadians," said Mr. Ouellet.

The panel was established in December 1995 by the British and Irish governments with a mandate to provide an independent assessment of the parties' commitment to, and methods for, removing arms from Northern Irish politics.

The report and its recommendations are based on wide consultation with political parties, the two governments and private individuals.

The International Body was chaired by George J. Mitchell, former Senate Majority Leader of the United States. General A. John de Chastelain, former Chief of the Defence Staff of Canada, and Harri Harmanni Holkeri, former Prime Minister of Finland, were the other members of the panel.

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News Release

January 24, 1996

No. 11

OUELLET URGES SIERRA LEONE TO HOLD ITS ELECTIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today underlined the importance of Presidential and legislative elections being held as planned in Sierra Leone on February 26, despite the coup d'état of January 16.

"The people of Sierra Leone are counting on these elections, the first in a generation, to establish democracy and political stability in their country. It is important that Sierra Leone continue to follow the democratic course it has set for itself," said Mr. Ouellet.

In early January, under its Election Assistance Program, Canada sent an expert to help Sierra Leone set up and administer fair and open elections. Information workshops were also held by Canada to inform the voters of the terms and conditions of the vote and of their rights.

Mr. Ouellet added that by virtue of its membership in the Commonwealth, Sierra Leone, like all members, is obliged to respect and safeguard fundamental values such as human rights, democracy and human development.

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News Release

January 28, 1996

No. 12

AXWORTHY CONDEMNS MILITARY COUP IN NIGER

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today strongly condemned the military takeover in Niger in which the democratically elected government, the first in the West African country's history, was overthrown. Mr. Axworthy also announced a moratorium on new official Canadian aid to the Government of Niger, with immediate effect.

"This unfortunate and unjustified action by a small group of military officers represents a step backward for the people of Niger," said Mr. Axworthy. "The military should take immediate steps to release President Mahamane Ousmane and Prime Minister Hama Amadou and allow them to return to office."

The Minister, in consultation with the Minister for International Cooperation and la Francophonie, Pierre Pettigrew, also announced that Canadian bilateral cooperation with the Government of Niger was suspended until civilian rule would be restored. Bilateral consultations with Niger authorities, planned for Ottawa in March, have been put on hold until further notice.

Approximately \$6.07 million in bilateral aid to Niger is disbursed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

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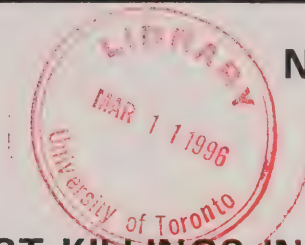


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News Release

February 1, 1996

No. 13



AXWORTHY CONDEMNS TERRORIST KILLINGS IN SRI LANKA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his shock at the January 31 bombing in downtown Colombo which killed over 70 people and injured hundreds of others.

"Canada strongly condemns this cowardly act of terrorism and the devastating loss of innocent lives," said Mr. Axworthy.

"Violence of this nature will only exacerbate the conflict. I wish to extend Canada's deepest condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of the victims in the hope that the perpetrators will be brought to justice."

While no group has claimed responsibility for the act, the nature of the bombing carries all the markings of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). Canada has repeatedly appealed to the LTTE and to the Government of Sri Lanka to cease hostilities and negotiate a peaceful, lasting settlement.

Canada continues to support a negotiated political settlement to this long-standing conflict in Sri Lanka, believing the Sri Lankan government's upcoming constitutional reform package will provide a sound basis for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

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News Release

February 2, 1996

No. 14

AXWORTHY TO VISIT UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will attend meetings at the UN in New York on Monday, February 5.

"I am delighted that my first visit abroad as Minister of Foreign Affairs will take me to the UN," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada's support for the organization dates back to its founding over 50 years ago, and my visit is intended to reinforce this long-standing commitment. My discussions will focus on ways in which the UN and Canada can work together to meet the challenges facing the UN and to ensure that it enters the 21st century reinvigorated and renewed."

During his day-long visit, Mr. Axworthy will meet with UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali as well as senior UN officials, including the Executive Director of the UN Children's Fund. Among the issues that are expected to be raised are security and peacekeeping – primarily in Haiti and Central Africa – and UN renewal. In addition, Mr. Axworthy will attend a luncheon meeting of the "Friends of Haiti" – the United States, France, Venezuela, Argentina and Chile. He will be joined at the luncheon by Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart.

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News Release

February 7, 1996

No. 15

MSR 111996
Ministry of Toronto

EGGLETON LAUNCHES THE 1996 CANADA EXPORT AWARDS COMPETITION

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today launched the 1996 competition for the Canada Export Awards, which are presented annually to companies succeeding in international markets.

The competition is open to all firms, or divisions of firms, resident in Canada that have been exporting goods and services for three or more years. Winners are chosen primarily based on success in breaking into new markets, increase in export sales and achievement in introducing export products and services into world markets. The 1996 presentation ceremony is scheduled to take place on October 7, 1996, at the Winnipeg Centennial Concert Hall.

"We place great importance on recognizing the achievements of Canadian exporters as they represent the lifeblood of our economy," said Mr. Eggleton at a dinner hosted by the Canadian Exporters' Association. "Therefore, it is more important than ever to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises to enter the export arena."

Recipients of the Canada Export Award have been featured in nationwide promotions that recognize their success and encourage others to emulate their performance as exporters.

Applications for the 1996 Canada Export Award Program must be received no later than April 30, 1996. For further details, applicants should contact the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's InfoCentre at 1-800-267-8376 or 944-4000 (in Ottawa), or by facsimile at (613) 996-9709.

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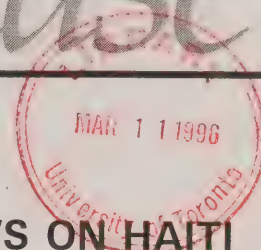
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News Release

February 9, 1996

No. 16

CANADIANS INVITED TO SHARE VIEWS ON HAITI THROUGH DFAIT'S WEB SITE



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today invited Internet World Wide Web (WWW) users to visit the Haiti section of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) WWW site.

"I am seeking the views of Parliamentarians and non-governmental organizations with respect to our involvement in Haiti, and we also want Canadians to share their thoughts, ideas and concerns on this matter," said Mr. Axworthy. "In addition to Canada's current peacekeeping activities, we share historical links with that country. It is a fellow member of la Francophonie and there is a large and dynamic Haitian community in Canada."

A short brief on Canada's policy towards Haiti is available at the WWW site. Canadians can direct their comments to the Department's Latin America and Caribbean Branch via a special electronic mail box. While there will be no replies to individual messages, the Department will be reviewing and taking into account contributions on the issue.

The Haiti policy document can be found in three sections of the Homepage menu: "What's New," "News Releases, Statements and Newsletters" and "Information by region or country" (within the "Latin America and Caribbean" heading). Access is available through the following WWW address:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

In addition to participating in the United Nations Mission in Haiti, Canada has been active in a number of other areas, including bilateral assistance to address basic human needs, promote economic development and strengthen democratic institutions. These initiatives highlight Canada's commitment to ensuring long-term peace and stability in Haiti.

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News Release

February 9, 1996

No. 17

CANADA CONDEMNS BOMBING IN LONDON

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today condemned the bombing near South Quay Station in London's Docklands area.

"Canada has continually supported the peace process in Northern Ireland," Mr. Axworthy said. "Attempts to derail this process are a matter of great concern for all Canadians. This incident must not deflect the parties from their goal of bringing peace to the people of Northern Ireland."

The Minister extended the sympathy of the people of Canada to the victims of this attack and their families.

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News Release

February 14, 1996

No. 18

CANADA AND ANDORRA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada and Andorra have established diplomatic relations. His Excellency Juli Minoves-Triquell, earlier today presented his Letters of Credence to Canada's Governor General Roméo LeBlanc as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Principality of Andorra.

"I wish to warmly welcome Canada's newest diplomatic partner in Europe," declared Mr. Axworthy. "I am pleased that we have been able to formalize the friendly informal relationship which our two countries have enjoyed for many decades."

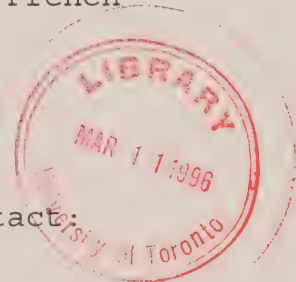
Andorra's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations in New York will represent Andorra in Canada.

Andorra is a 450 km² principality of approximately 64 000 inhabitants nestled in the Pyrénées mountains between Spain and France. The official language of Andorra is Catalan; Spanish and French are also spoken widely. The Spanish peseta and French franc both circulate as the legal tender in Andorra.

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News Release

February 15, 1996

No. 19

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announces the following diplomatic appointments:

Howard Balloch, as Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

Douglas G. Waddell, as Minister and Deputy Head of Mission, in Washington.

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Biographical notes are attached.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Howard Balloch (Université Laval, 1969; B.A., [Honours] Political Science and Economics, McGill University, 1971; M.A., International Relations, McGill University, 1972; Ph.D. studies (thesis incomplete), Political Economy, University of Toronto; Fondation nationale de Sciences politiques, 1973-76; McDonnell Fellow, McGill University, 1971-72; Canada Council Fellow, 1973-76) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1976 and served abroad in Jakarta and Prague. In Ottawa, Mr. Balloch held a number of positions in the Department, including Director, Resource Management; Director, North Asia Relations Division; Director General, Policy Planning Staff and, from 1992 to 1994, Assistant Deputy Minister, Asia and Pacific Branch. In 1994, he joined the Privy Council Office as Deputy Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs. He is a member of the boards of governors of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and of the Centre for International Business at the University of Toronto; he is also a member of the Advisory Board of the Centre for International Business at the University of British Columbia. Mr. Balloch and his wife, Liani, have four children. He succeeds Mr. John L. Paynter, who died on October 31, 1995.

Douglas G. Waddell (B.A. Honours, University of Manitoba, 1969) is currently Director General, Trade Policy Bureau and Co-ordinator for the North American Free Trade Agreement. He was Director General, United States Trade and Economic Policy Bureau from 1987 to 1991. Prior to that Mr. Waddell had various trade policy assignments relating to Canada-United States trade relations and Canada's participation in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. He served at the Canadian Embassy in Washington as First Secretary from 1973 to 1976. He joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1969. Mr. Waddell and his wife, Connie, have three daughters. He succeeds Robert G. Wright, who was recently named Deputy Minister for International Trade.

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News Release

February 15, 1996

No. 20

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PETTIGREW TO ATTEND SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF LA FRANCOPHONIE IN BORDEAUX

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, Pierre S. Pettigrew, will attend the Seventh Conference of Ministers of la Francophonie in Bordeaux, France, on February 16 and 17.

"I am pleased to attend this conference," said Mr. Pettigrew. "As the new Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, I want to take this opportunity to meet my counterparts from around the world and to ensure the continuity of Canadian foreign policy in this organization."

The Conference will bring together ministers responsible for foreign affairs or la Francophonie from all member countries. It has the twofold task of sitting as the general conference of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT) and as the follow-up conference to the Cotonou Summit, which was held in Benin in December 1995.

The Bordeaux Conference will thus study the ACCT's balance sheet and programming for the two years following the Mauritius Summit (1993-95), and will examine the Agency's financial and programming proposals for follow-up to the Cotonou Summit (1995-97). The Conference will also review the Cotonou Summit's key decisions and announce plans for their implementation.

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News Release

February 15, 1996

No. 21

AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES FIRST FOREIGN APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASIA PACIFIC FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointment of Dr. Han Sung-Joo of Korea to the Board of Directors of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC). Dr. Han, who will serve a three-year term, is the first foreign-based board member of the 12-year-old Foundation.

"Dr. Han brings invaluable experience to the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and an Asian perspective that will serve the APFC well as we approach what has been termed the Pacific Century," said Mr. Axworthy.

Dr. Han is a professor of political science at Korea University and founder and head of the International Relations Institute. He was Korean Foreign Affairs Minister from February 1993 to December 1994 and prior to his ministerial appointment President of the Seoul Forum for International Affairs.

"Dr. Han Sung-Joo's strong advocacy of regional co-operation in all fields suggests that his contribution will reflect a pan-Asian viewpoint," said the Honourable Raymond Chan, Secretary of State (Asia Pacific). APFC Board of Directors Chairperson Michael Phelps added that Dr. Han would be a welcome and stimulating presence on the Board, which includes a cross-section of distinguished Canadians.

The APFC was created by an Act of Parliament in 1984 to promote closer ties between the people and institutions of Canada and those of the Asia Pacific region. In addition to core programs and services developed to meet that mandate, the APFC is designated as the site of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Study Centre in Canada, plays a major role in administering the Canadian Education Centre (CEC) Network, and is the Secretariat for the Canadian Committees for the Pacific Economic Co-operation Council (PECC) and the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC).



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Canada will assume the chair of APEC in 1997, which will greatly heighten the profile of the Asia Pacific in Canada, and of Canada in Asia. The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada will play a significant role in related domestic events during that year.

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News Release

February 16, 1996

No. 22

NATO SECRETARY GENERAL TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of National Defence David Collenette today announced that Javier Solana, Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will be in Ottawa on February 19.

"I will be discussing with Mr. Solana Canada's view that NATO's military structure must be streamlined, in keeping with post-Cold War realities. The enhancement of the Organization's role as a forum for developing security policy is of great importance, as demonstrated by its role in the Peace Implementation Force in Bosnia," said Mr. Axworthy.

Mr. Solana assumed his position in December 1995; this will be his first visit to Canada as NATO Secretary General. During his one-day visit, he will hold joint meetings with Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Collenette. The Secretary General is also expected to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

Canada is one of 16 members of NATO, which was created in 1949 to provide collective transatlantic security. Although its focus has changed since the end of the Cold War, NATO continues to play a high-profile role in European peace and security. A 1000-member Canadian Forces contingent is currently serving in NATO's peace implementation force in Bosnia.

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News Release

February 16, 1996

No. 23



EGGLETON WELCOMES SETTLEMENT ON LUMBER

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton today announced that negotiations involving federal and provincial representatives, as well as the Canadian lumber industry, have successfully concluded the elements of a Canada-United States agreement related to trade in softwood lumber. The five-year agreement includes a U.S. commitment not to initiate any trade actions affecting Canadian exports of softwood lumber.

"The security of market access provided in this agreement is of critical importance to Canadian exporters," said Mr. Eggleton. "We have worked closely with the provincial governments and lumber industry to negotiate a deal that is acceptable to all parties."

The agreement incorporates commitments made by each of the major lumber-producing provinces (British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta). Minister Eggleton noted that the specific approaches preferred by each of the provinces have been accommodated within an overall nation-wide agreement. The British Columbia commitments, involving a fee if exports go beyond recent levels, would be implemented with the assistance of the federal government. The Quebec, Alberta and Ontario commitments incorporate recent changes in provincial forestry practices, such as adjustments to stumpage fees paid to the provincial governments for the right to harvest timber. These provinces have also agreed to consult with the U.S. on further measures in the event of export increases in their respective current levels of softwood lumber exports to the U.S. As in the past, the U.S. has acknowledged that the forestry practices and the lumber exports of the Maritime Provinces are not a cause of concern to the U.S. industry.

Canadian softwood lumber exports to the United States reached record levels in 1995 of over \$8 billion. The value of exports has grown by more than 40 per cent since 1990, increasing from 26 per cent of the U.S. market to 36 per cent in 1995. The



Canada-U.S. agreement will ensure continued market access and eliminate the threat of further U.S. trade action in this sector for five years. Canadian softwood lumber has been subject, over the past 15 years, to three U.S. countervailing duty investigations, involving major costs and uncertainties for Canadian exporters.

Mr. Eggleton noted the key role of the provinces and industry in achieving an acceptable agreement. "This has been a complex negotiation involving both federal and provincial responsibilities," said the Minister. "I am pleased that both levels of government have worked co-operatively to put together the best agreement possible in the interests of the Canadian lumber industry."

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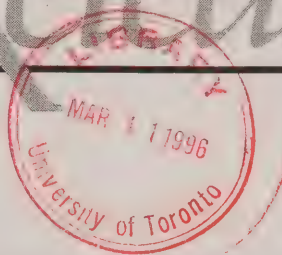
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News Release

February 26, 1996

No. 24



CANADA CONDEMNS CUBA'S DOWNING OF U.S. AIRCRAFT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today condemned the shooting down by Cuban authorities of two civilian U.S. aircraft on February 24, and the tragic loss of life resulting from this incident.

"The action taken by the Cuban government was an excessive and inappropriate use of force, which violated internationally accepted rules for the interception of civil aircraft," said Mr. Axworthy.

Hours after the incident, Canada's Ambassador in Havana met with a senior official of the Cuban Department of Foreign Affairs to convey the Canadian government's deep concern about the event and to seek further clarification.

Minister Axworthy noted that the matter is before the UN Security Council. He indicated that Canada supports a strong statement by the President of the Security Council on the matter, including a call for a full investigation by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) of the circumstances leading to the tragedy.

Following the shooting down of a Korean airliner (KAL 007) in 1983, Canada called for a major review of ICAO's guidelines to avoid such tragedies in future. This review resulted in an important amendment of the Chicago Convention, codifying customary international law that sets out the practices and principles for the interception of civil aircraft. Although Canada ratified this new article in 1986, it has yet to come into force. Mr. Axworthy urged all states that have not yet done so to ratify the article and to respect these undertakings.

- 30 -

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News Release

February 29, 1996

No. 26

CANADA AND CHILE TO NEGOTIATE ENVIRONMENTAL AND LABOUR CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS AS PART OF INTERIM BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton today announced that Canada and Chile will negotiate parallel agreements on environmental and labour co-operation as part of the Canada-Chile interim bilateral trade agreement.

"The decision to develop parallel agreements on the environment and labour reflects the priority Canada and Chile place on co-operation in these areas," said Mr. Eggleton.

"Environmental and labour agreements and the interim bilateral trade agreement will together provide a bridge to Chile's full accession to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)."

Canada and Chile have agreed to negotiate parallel agreements which will closely resemble the North American Agreements on Environmental and Labour Co-operation that were negotiated as part of the NAFTA. These agreements strengthen co-operation and promote the effective enforcement of domestic laws and regulations in these areas.

"The environmental and labour agreements are an integral aspect of the NAFTA and have provided a unique forum for co-operation between Canada and its NAFTA partners," said Mr. Eggleton. "As such they provide an important basis for our discussions."

Canada and Chile announced their intent to pursue an interim bilateral trade agreement on December 29, 1995. Today's announcement coincides with the second round of bilateral negotiations being held in Ottawa from February 29 to March 5.

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News Release

February 29, 1996

No. 27

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STRATEGY 1996/97 OFFERS COMPANIES WINNING STRATEGIES TO GO GLOBAL

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable John Manley, Industry Minister, on behalf of their Team Canada colleagues, today released *Canada's International Business Strategy* (CIBS) 1996-97. This annual initiative, a blueprint laying out how the federal and provincial governments and industry will work together to generate new international opportunities for Canadian business, is central to the Government's commitment to stimulate growth and create jobs. It includes international business strategies spanning 22 key industry sectors.

For the first time CIBS is available on-line via the Internet and governmental bulletin boards. Another new feature in this year's edition of *Canada's International Business Strategy* is the *CIBS Compendium*, an electronic on-line list of federally and provincially sponsored sectoral activities taking place in Canada and abroad, in which the business community can participate. The *CIBS Compendium* will be updated regularly.

"*Canada's International Business Strategy* reflects a more strategic approach to this country's international business development priorities than we have seen in the past," said Mr. Eggleton. "Furthermore, this initiative is evolving into a business plan for Team Canada against which all federal departments will allocate resources."

CIBS sector strategies are valuable tools for both government and the private sector. Through the CIBS consultation process, federal and provincial governments are better able to co-ordinate their efforts and reduce overlap and duplication. At the same time, by encouraging close co-operation between governments and the private sector, CIBS gives Canadian industry a real opportunity to influence government strategies and spending priorities.



"Helping Canadian business capture global trade, technology and investment opportunities is key to our future growth," Mr. Manley said today in a speech to the Empire Club of Canada. "In an age when your competition is not just across the street but across the world, Canadian entrepreneurs must be prepared to expand their horizons."

CIBS is available through the Internet at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> or FaxLink at (613) 944-4500. Diskette versions, and a limited quantity of hard copies, are also available upon request through the InfoCentre by telephone at 1-800-267-8376 or (613) 944-4000 and by fax at (613) 996-9709.

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Industry Canada
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News Release

February 29, 1996

No. 28

AXWORTHY WELCOMES NEW STEP IN NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE PROCESS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the Anglo/Irish Joint Communiqué which announces that all-party negotiations in the Northern Ireland peace process will be convened in June.

"The Anglo/Irish Joint Communiqué is a major step forward in the peace process," Mr. Axworthy said. "All sides should seize this opportunity to work together on a just and lasting peaceful settlement. In particular, I call on the IRA to resume its ceasefire."

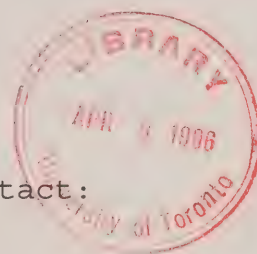
Mr. Axworthy saluted the Irish and British governments for the steadfastness of their commitment to the peace process.

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News Release

February 29, 1996

No. 29



CANADA TO LEAD UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of National Defence David Collette today announced that, on the request of the United Nations Secretary-General, Canada will be taking command of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) as of March 1, 1996.

"Canada has played an active role in restoring democracy in Haiti," said Mr. Axworthy. "We share a mutual interest in the security and stability of the Western Hemisphere, and are committed to maintaining the success of our peacekeeping and development efforts there. The most useful way to ensure this is by continuing to support the UN in Haiti."

"The UN's request to Canada to take command of this mission indicates the value placed on our peacekeeping experience and skills," said Mr. Collette. "In addition to assuming command of UNMIH, we are sending troops from the 5^e Groupe-brigade mécanisé du Canada, based in Valcartier, Quebec. The contingent will be augmented by 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron from Edmonton, Alberta, and 4 Engineer Support Regiment from Gaagetown, New Brunswick."

The size and scope of UNMIH have been reduced by the UN Security Council to reflect the achievements of the mission over the last 18 months. Although the UNMIH Force has been decreased to 1 200 military personnel, Canada considers it necessary to assign approximately 700 additional troops to permit UNMIH to maintain a visible presence throughout the country and to provide for the security of UN and other designated personnel.

Solicitor General Herb Gray stated that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) will continue its role in the mission. "Canada wants to help ensure a peaceful, stable civil society in Haiti," said Mr. Gray. "We will continue to provide 100 officers to the 300-member civilian police contingent. They will be involved in field training for Haitian National Police recruits and training at the Haitian National Police Academy."



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Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew, in Montreal, underscored the two countries' historic ties and mutual francophone heritage. He noted the role of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in supplementing Canadian peacekeeping efforts in Haiti. "Canada's aid, carried out in partnership with Canadian and international organizations, is fighting poverty and helping to rebuild Haitian society," said Mr. Pettigrew. "CIDA is also supporting the training of Haitian police officers under RCMP direction by officers from police forces across Canada."

UNMIH's mandate has been extended to June 30, 1996.

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A background document is attached.

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Media Relations Office
Canadian International Development Agency
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Media Relations
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
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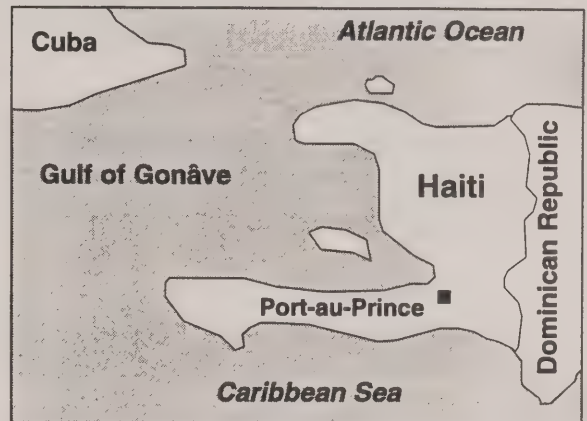


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CANADA AND HAITI

Background

- Ties between Canada and Haiti date to the first half of the 20th century when Canadian missionaries arrived in Haiti. Immigration to Canada from Haiti grew rapidly during the Duvalier era.
- Canada has a dynamic Haitian community of about 60 000, most of whom live in Quebec. Thousands of Canadians have worked in Haiti over the past 50 years. Close to 2000 Canadians live in Haiti; most are dual nationals and are married to Haitians.



Political Relations

- After the overthrow of the Duvalier regime, Canada took part in efforts to promote democratic development in Haiti, including the Organization of American States (OAS)/ United Nations (UN) mission to help prepare for and observe the 1990 elections — the first free elections to be held in that country.
- One of the “Friends of Haiti,” Canada played a leading role in international efforts to reinstate President Aristide between 1991 and 1994. During the coup, Canada supported and co-sponsored numerous resolutions on Haiti in the UN and the OAS and led the G-7 and la Francophonie to issue statements supporting international action on Haiti. Canada also took part in a series of UN and OAS humanitarian, conciliation and observer missions to Haiti.
- Through 1993, Canada strongly advocated the use of sanctions against the military regime in Haiti and put in place all sanctions called for by the UN and the OAS.
- In July 1994, Canada helped draft and co-sponsored United Nations Resolution 940 authorizing the creation of a multinational force which could use “all necessary means” to implement the terms of the Governors’ Island Agreement.
- On October 15, 1994, Canada welcomed the return of Jean-Bertrand Aristide to Haiti as President, and on February 7, 1996, Canada’s Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, Pierre S. Pettigrew, attended the inauguration of President René Préval. This was the first democratic transition of leadership in Haiti’s history.

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- Canada's efforts in Haiti have focussed on peacekeeping and long-term reconstruction. The Government also provided support for the Haitian legislative elections in June 1995 and for the presidential elections in December 1995.

United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH)

- Canada has played a significant role in UNMIH since it took over from the Multinational Intervention Force on March 31, 1995. Approximately 500 Canadian Forces personnel, as well as 100 civilian police officers, participated under the original mandate. An officer of the RCMP was the first head of the UN Civilian Police and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) partly funded the training of the Haitian National Police.
- The original mandate of UNMIH was intended to sustain a secure and stable environment, to protect international personnel and key installations, and to contribute to the development of a professional civil police force. On February 9, President René Préval requested that the UN extend the mandate for another six months after its expiry on February 29, 1996.
- While UNMIH has been largely successful until now, its extension is intended to reinforce the stability that has been achieved in Haiti and to promote conditions necessary for social and economic development to strengthen Haitian democracy.

Terms of the renewed mandate:

- The main objective of an extended and smaller mission is to provide monitoring, training and assistance in the field to the Haitian National Police so that it can become a more effective force. The Mission will also assist the Haitian government in maintaining a stable and secure environment in Haiti.
- The mandate will expire on June 30, 1996.
- Canada will assume the military leadership of UNMIH under its extended mandate. The UNMIH Force will comprise 1200 military personnel. Approximately 700 additional troops will be assigned by Canada. In addition, a total of 300 civilian police officers will be assigned under CIVPOL, 100 of them Canadians. The Canadian officers will be drawn from the RCMP and from a number of provincial and municipal police forces.

Bilateral Commitments

- Canada sent a contingent of RCMP officers to Haiti in October 1994 to train Haitian police officers. The last class of the 5000 police officers trained under this program graduated on February 17, 1996. Canada is now preparing to provide advanced training to members of the Haitian National Police.
- Under a memorandum of understanding that Canada signed with the Aristide government in August 1994, Canada trained 100 Haitian police officers in Regina. Graduates of this program were deployed in Haiti, along with the first graduates of the Haitian Police Academy, in June 1995.

Development Assistance

- Following the re-establishment of Haiti's constitutional government in October 1994, Canada was the first country to undertake new projects in Haiti that went beyond humanitarian and emergency food aid.
- Canada's assistance program, managed by CIDA, supports democratic development, the promotion of human rights, the strengthening of civil society and sustainable economic development. Canadian assistance has totalled \$40 million per year since October 1994.

Canadian assistance to Haiti focuses on three objectives:

- Meeting basic human needs: Canada provides food aid and medicines to Haiti, and helps the most vulnerable sectors of society. Canada's provision of \$700 000 to UNICEF for children at risk, announced by Minister Pettigrew on February 7, is an example.
- Promoting economic development and job creation: Canada has provided basic agricultural tools to Haitian farmers and has funded labour-intensive programs to rebuild schools, hospitals and community infrastructures. Canada is also developing an infrastructure in the energy sector.
- Strengthening democratic institutions and promoting democracy: Canada is participating in the training of the Haitian National Police and in the reform of the justice system. Assistance is also being provided through Canadian non-governmental organizations to develop the co-operative sector and grass-roots organizations.

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News Release

March 1, 1996

No. 30

AXWORTHY AND EGGLETON WELCOME EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S PLAN FOR CLOSER CO-OPERATION WITH CANADA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton welcomed the release yesterday in Brussels of a plan by the European Commission for closer political and economic relations with Canada. The seven-page document will be submitted for final approval to the European Council of Ministers before the end of March. Canada expects that negotiations on a joint Declaration and Action Plan for enhanced co-operation with the European Union (EU) will get under way in April.

"As a result of continuing expansion and integration, the importance of the European Union as an economic and political partner for Canada is increasing. Canada is committed to a comprehensive transatlantic renewal process that includes Europe and the United States," Mr. Axworthy said.

Canada is seeking to enhance bilateral co-operation with the European Union in many areas including foreign and security policy, and global issues such as human rights, international crime, migration and the environment.

Canada has focussed special attention on ways to expand transatlantic trade and commercial relations. High on the Canadian agenda is a proposal for a detailed study on the benefits of transatlantic trade liberalization.

"Canada is a trading nation. Increasing market opportunities for Canadian exporters in the lucrative European market would mean job creation and economic growth in Canada, and further benefits for Canadian consumers," Mr. Eggleton said.



The decision to deepen transatlantic relations is the product of consultations among Canada, the European Commission and Member States of the European Union in the past months.

The planned visit of Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission, to Canada on March 18 will offer an opportunity to examine these ideas further and to lay the groundwork for negotiations on a detailed Canada-EU Action Plan.

- 30 -

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News Release

March 1, 1996

No. 31

JUSTICE LOUISE ARBOUR APPOINTED TO INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his great pleasure at the formal appointment yesterday of Justice Louise Arbour as Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

"I am convinced that Justice Arbour's vast experience in Canada will permit her to make a significant contribution to the work of the Tribunals, which we see as an international priority," said Mr. Axworthy. "Her efforts in this sensitive task will help to ensure that those accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia are brought to justice."

Justice Arbour is a member of the Court of Appeal for Ontario. She is at present on leave from the Court, having been appointed in April 1995 to preside over an inquiry into events at the Prison for Women in Kingston, Ontario. Justice Arbour previously worked as a trial judge, and was an Associate Professor and Associate Dean at Osgoode Hall Law School of York University. Her duties as Chief Prosecutor for the International Tribunals will commence on October 1, 1996, when she will replace Justice Richard Goldstone of South Africa.

Canada has been one of the strongest supporters of the work of the Tribunals, contributing approximately \$1.5 million to their work. The appointment of Justice Arbour brings to four the number of senior-level Canadians working on behalf of the UN to see that justice is served in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda. The other three Canadians are Justice Jules Deschênes, a judge of the Appeal Chamber of the Tribunals; Commander William Fenrick, the International Law Adviser to the Prosecutor; and Mr. Al Breault, Chief Investigator for the Rwandan Tribunal.

- 30 -

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News Release

March 4, 1996

No. 32

CEBIT '96: SHOWCASE FOR CANADIAN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES

More than 60 Canadian information technology companies will exhibit telecommunications equipment and computer hardware, software and services at CeBIT '96 in Hannover, Germany, from March 14 to 20, 1996, International Trade Minister Art Eggleton and Industry Minister John Manley announced today.

CeBIT (which stands for World Centre for Office, Information and Telecommunications) is the world's most widely attended and comprehensive showcase of information systems, office automation, telecommunications products and services attracting more than 6000 companies from about 60 countries.

The theme of Canada's Pavilion will be "Canada in Cyberspace." Internet is a world phenomenon, and Industry Canada will host a Web site through which visitors to the Pavilion can obtain information about Canada's Internet product suppliers and link directly to their Web sites.

"Canada in Cyberspace" will showcase Internet products, including hardware, software, information services, Web software, authoring tools, ISDN hardware, modems, routers and firewalls, from Canadian companies seeking international partners. Several Canadian companies exhibiting at CeBIT will unveil and display new and innovative products and services related to the Internet.

"Canada has a cutting-edge information technology sector and the more than 700 000 people that are expected to attend CeBIT will discover the leading-edge products on display in the Canada Pavilion and meet with the members of Team Canada," said Mr. Manley.

"CeBIT is unparalleled, as no other comparable exhibition has so much to offer in such a concentrated, yet accessible and structured format," stated Mr. Eggleton. "This year again, the Canadian presence at CeBIT will be heightened by the teaming efforts of government in support of the Canadian information technology industry."



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Canadian firms of all sizes have participated in the CeBIT trade show since 1985, establishing new strategic alliances and business partnerships through connections made at the exhibition. Companies can exhibit independently or opt for the convenience and cost-effectiveness of the national stand organized by the federal government. This year 35 companies are participating with the Canada Pavilion.

There are 25 exhibition halls at Deutsche Messe AG, Hannover, filled with the best the world has to offer in information technology, network computing, software, telecommunications, office technology, bank technology, and security equipment and card technology.

CeBIT attracts more distributors, wholesalers, agents, retailers and importers than any other computer and communications trade show in the world. Germany's place at the crossroads of eastern, western and central Europe enhances CeBIT's status as a platform for initiating profitable, enduring partnerships.

Canada's information technology and telecommunications sector – including telecommunications, software, computer services, computers, peripherals and components – generated \$54.6 billion in revenues in 1994, an increase of 10 per cent from 1993. The contribution to Canadian GDP by this sector was over \$30 billion in 1994, up from the 1993 level of \$27 billion.

There are about 15 000 firms in the sector that employed 308 249 people in 1994 (excluding the self-employed). This is up from 298 376 the previous year, an increase of 3.3 per cent. Canadian companies are at the forefront of much of the new development in information technology, especially in software products and geomatics solutions.

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A backgrounder on Team Canada is attached.

A detailed press kit of background information about Canada's information technology sector and CeBIT participation is available upon request.

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Backgrounder

TEAM CANADA — SHARE IN THE SUCCESS

The Canadian presence at CeBIT builds on the Team Canada partnership to further develop international business opportunities for Canada. Team Canada is the collaborative approach to doing international business used by the federal and provincial governments and the private sector. It ensures a targeted, co-ordinated and effective international business development strategy for Canada that focusses on attracting foreign investment and technology transfer.

Canada seeks to diversify both the composition and the destination of exports as well as to broaden the base of Canadian companies involved in international trade and investment. The objective is to double the number of active exporters by the year 2000 by using the Team Canada approach.

More than almost any other country in the developed world, Canada depends on exports for jobs and economic growth. This leads to a growing economy and to well-paying jobs in industries of the future.

International business is key to furthering economic growth and creating jobs for Canadians. It has been estimated that every \$1 billion increase in export sales generates about 11 000 new jobs in Canada.

The Team Canada approach helps Canadian firms, particularly small enterprises, export to more markets through the establishment of strategic alliances and business partnerships made during trade missions or trade fairs such as CeBIT.

To serve business more effectively, the Government is pursuing new approaches based on a Team Canada partnership with the provinces and the private sector. Designed to put into place better and more efficient international business development services and activities, the approaches include:

- **Canada's International Business Strategy** to integrate export strategies for 22 individual industry sectors.
- **National Sector Teams** to develop, with the private sector, strategies to compete abroad. The teams are comprised of key public and private sector representatives who will develop sectoral action plans to pursue international business more effectively.

- **Regional Trade Networks** to ensure effective service delivery across Canada. These networks are pooling expertise and resources to provide more efficient services and information to business clients including Regional Trade Plans.
- **International Business Opportunities Centre** to offer quick response to Canadian firms on specific market opportunities.
- Providing Canadian businesses with **market information and intelligence**, as well as key contacts to pursue global opportunities.

Stronger partnerships and business networks will provide more strategic and effective international business development, foreign investment and technology transfer programs and services to help Canadian business compete internationally.

An outstanding example of the Team Canada approach was Prime Minister Chrétien's landmark visit to China in 1994 accompanied by nine provincial premiers and nearly 400 business people.

"To say that Team Canada scored would be the understatement of the decade," the Prime Minister said at a Canada-China Business Council event organized in conjunction with the visit to Canada last October by Chinese Premier Li Peng. "Team Canada signed more than \$8 billion worth of deals between Canadian businesses and Chinese partners."

The Prime Minister also noted that the impact of Team Canada is still being felt. Canadian firms are reporting an additional \$850 million worth of business from the initiatives of the Team Canada trade mission to China.

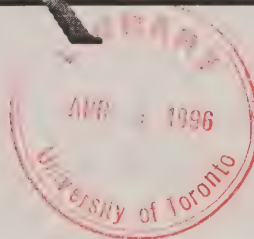
The success of the Team Canada approach was recently demonstrated through the over \$8 billion in business conducted during the Team Canada trade mission to South Asia. Contracts signed amounted to more than \$2.9 billion in India, more than \$2 billion in Pakistan, \$2.76 billion in Indonesia, and \$445 million in Malaysia.

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News Release

March 5, 1996

No. 33



NEW STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO ADDRESS CANADA-U.S. PACIFIC SALMON FISHERY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Fred Mifflin today announced that discussions on the implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty will continue on a bilateral basis with the United States.

The Ministers were informed last week by the mediator, Ambassador Christopher Beeby of New Zealand, that his role in mediation of the equity principle under the Treaty had reached the end of the road, and that he no longer saw a role for himself, given the gap in views between the two parties. Thus, for the short term, Canada will continue negotiations in the Pacific Salmon Commission to obtain agreement on 1996 fishing plans to ensure conservation of the fisheries resource. For the long term, Canada is committed to the full implementation of the Treaty, in order to meet the interests of B.C. fishers and ensure the well-being of the resource.

"Canada will now proceed with direct bilateral discussions with the United States," said Mr. Axworthy. "We are committed to finding a solution in consultation with B.C. stakeholders. We will focus on establishing fishing arrangements for the 1996 season, beginning with discussions at the Pacific Salmon Commission. Beyond that, we will seek to ensure with the United States the long-term conservation and revitalization of the Pacific Salmon fishery."

Mr. Mifflin said: "I am very disappointed that the mediation process, designed to address the dispute with the United States over the equity principle of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, has ended without reaching agreement. We are currently reviewing our options for resolving the equity issue with the United States. We have reaffirmed with the U.S. our continuing resolve to address this issue, because Canadian fishers are now at a serious disadvantage."



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The federal government is committed to taking the steps necessary for conservation and to providing Canada with a fair share of the salmon resource, based on Canadian production as set out in the Treaty.

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News Release

March 7, 1996

No. 34

AXWORTHY PRAISES ELECTIONS IN SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the successful holding of Sierra Leone's first multi-party presidential and parliamentary elections since 1967. The February 26 and 27 elections featured an impressive 60 per cent turnout, despite threats of violence and organizational and transport problems.

Five of the 13 parties fielding candidates in the elections will be represented in Sierra Leone's Parliament. A second round of balloting will be held on March 15 to choose the new president, as no candidate received the required 55 per cent of votes in the first round.

"Canada applauds the people of Sierra Leone for their determination in exercising the democratic right to vote, and commends the authorities for enabling them to do so," said Mr. Axworthy. "We urge all Sierra Leoneans to facilitate a peaceful transition to civilian rule and to work with their new elected government to strengthen democracy and stability in their country."

Canadian electoral assistance included a technical expert, support for voter education workshops and delivery of ballots and other materials to remote areas. Mr. Bill Montgomery, a former Canadian diplomat and senior Commonwealth official, served on the international team of election observers.

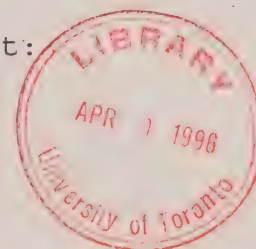
Mr. Axworthy added that Canada would support further the development of civil society in Sierra Leone through bilateral initiatives, and through its membership in the Commonwealth and its leadership role in the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group, which was created to uphold the principles of democracy, respect for human rights and good governance in member countries.

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News Release

March 8, 1996

No. 35

AXWORTHY PAYS TRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



On the occasion of International Women's Day, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today paid tribute to the important role and contribution of women to global development and peace.

"The protection of women's rights at home and internationally is an important priority of this government. Respect for and safeguarding of fundamental values, such as women's rights, are a pillar of Canada's foreign policy," said Mr. Axworthy.

The Minister cited recent Canadian international initiatives that have helped to enhance the global status of women:

- Canada initiated a United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, which was adopted by the General Assembly in December 1993. Canada also played a leading role in the creation, in March 1994, of a new position of Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women.
- At the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen in March 1995, many issues of concern to women figured prominently on the agenda. Stressing the link between poverty and social exclusion, Canada focussed attention on the feminization of poverty as well as the need to encourage the full and active participation of women in all aspects of social, political and economic life.
- Canada played a leadership role in preparing for and participating at the Fourth United Nations Conference on Women held in Beijing in September 1995. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action represent important gains in women's rights and equality issues. Canada was instrumental in achieving agreement in a number of key



areas, including the universality of women's rights,
violence against women, rape as a war crime and unpaid work.

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News Release

March 11, 1996

No. 36

CANADA OBSERVES COMMONWEALTH DAY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has made the following statement to mark Commonwealth Day, March 11:

Canadians join the citizens of the other 52 Commonwealth countries, about one third of the world's population, in celebrating Commonwealth Day. This year's theme is **Partnership**.

The Commonwealth is itself a partnership – linking governments, linking the many men and women working together through Commonwealth-based organizations, who daily bridge national, ethnic, language, cultural and economic differences to build international understanding. Direct face-to-face contacts between citizens of Commonwealth countries are helping in this goal every day of the year.

Canada is proud of its Commonwealth membership which serves to promote democracy and human rights, so highly cherished by all Canadians. In November 1995, for example, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in New Zealand created a Ministerial Action Group, which includes Canada, to consult on collective Commonwealth action when democracy is violated or threatened.

Canada is working through this Group to press in particular for an early return to a democratic government in Nigeria and to advance the cause of democracy in other Commonwealth countries.

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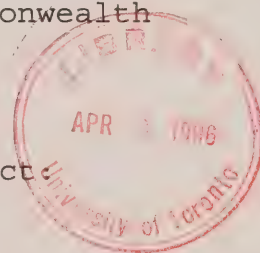
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News Release

March 13, 1996

No. 37

CANADA AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC SIGN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton today signed in Prague a new Air Transport Agreement between Canada and the Czech Republic.

"This new, more flexible agreement is a further step forward in expanding relations between our two countries," said Mr. Eggleton, speaking on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Transport Minister David Anderson. "The growth of bilateral air services is essential to the continuing improvement of trade and cultural links between Canada and the Czech Republic."

Under the agreement, both sides gained the additional operational and commercial flexibility needed for both the Czech designated airline, CSA, and Air Canada, to fully exploit this small but expanding air travel market. In addition, the agreement's new provisions on safety standards and aviation security reflect significant improvements in technical requirements and procedures in these areas.

As a direct result of this agreement, CSA plans to increase its flights to Toronto in early April from two to three times weekly, two of which will continue to serve Montreal. Although not operating its own aircraft to the Czech Republic, Air Canada plans to enter the market through collaboration with another airline at an intermediate European point.

- 30 -

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Backgrounder

CANADA-CZECH REPUBLIC AIR RELATIONS

- Canada's bilateral air agreement with the former Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, concluded in 1969, permitted Czechoslovak Airlines (CSA) to serve Montreal only.
- During negotiations held in October 1991, Canada granted the then-Czech and Slovak Federative Republic the right for CSA to serve Toronto, subject to some capacity restrictions. CSA now operates twice weekly to Montreal and Toronto.
- No Canadian carrier currently serves the Czech Republic.
- In May 1995, the Minister of Transport announced that Air Canada was designated to serve the Czech Republic under the terms of Canada's new international air transportation policy.
- Canadian and Czech delegations met in Ottawa in December 1995 to conclude a bilateral air agreement between Canada and the new Czech Republic. The two sides agreed to modest changes to the 1991 Agreement which could considerably increase air travel between the two countries.
- It was confirmed at the December 1995 negotiations that Air Canada could sell transportation under its own airline code on another carrier's flights via a European gateway for services between Canada and the Czech Republic. This code-sharing ability enables Air Canada to pursue the Canada-Czech market in commercial collaboration with either CSA or another airline.
- The two countries also agreed to important new technical provisions on safety standards, certification and aviation security, areas in which Canadian requirements and procedures have been significantly improved in recent years.
- They also agreed to less restrictive route rights for both passenger and all-cargo services, coupled with more flexibility for CSA to serve intermediate points.
- In April 1996, CSA plans to increase its weekly flights to Toronto from two to three, two of which will continue to serve Montreal.

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News Release

March 15, 1996

No. 38

CANADA BACKS NEW UN AGREEMENT TO CONTROL TRADE IN HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Environment Minister Sergio Marchi today announced Canada's participation in multilateral negotiations to develop an instrument aimed at ensuring that banned or severely restricted chemicals are not exported without the consent of importing countries. The negotiations, which began this week, sponsored by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), are expected to be completed in 1997.

"This is an important environmental initiative, and Canada intends to play an active role in achieving a realistic agreement that can be effectively implemented by all participating states," said Mr. Axworthy. "Controls on banned or severely restricted chemicals in international trade are necessary and should be based on a shared responsibility between exporting and importing countries to protect the health of citizens and the environment."

"This agreement will be an important step forward in enhancing the global management of toxic chemicals. Canada will be working hard to ensure its success for the good of future generations around the world" said Mr. Marchi.

The proposed agreement will be based on a prior informed consent (PIC) procedure aimed at controlling imports of chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted. Under this approach, participating countries will advise the FAO and UNEP on whether or not they wish to receive shipments of listed chemicals.

The growth in global trade of chemicals has led to increasing concerns about risks involved in their use. These concerns led to the development of two international voluntary codes of conduct or guidelines. The negotiations under the agreement will aim at entrenching the principle of PIC in a legally binding instrument.



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The Canadian delegation to the negotiations is being headed by Mr. John Fraser, PC, QC, Canada's Ambassador for the Environment.

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A backgrounder on the prior informed consent procedure is attached.

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Backgrounder

PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURE

What is Prior Informed Consent (PIC)?

The PIC procedure is a process by which countries advise the FAO and UNEP of whether or not they wish to receive shipments of chemicals listed under the procedure. This information is then distributed to all participating countries. Listed chemicals are primarily those that have been banned or severely restricted in the countries that participate in the procedure.

What international controls currently exist on the trade in chemicals?

At present, the PIC procedure is a voluntary measure. There are two voluntary international codes of conduct or guidelines: the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, administered by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the London Guidelines for the Exchange of Information on Chemicals in International Trade, administered by the United Nations Environmental Program. These voluntary instruments were amended in 1989 to include the PIC procedure.

How many countries participate in the PIC procedure?

Currently, there are 145 countries that participate in the voluntary PIC procedure.

What chemicals are covered under the procedure?

Seventeen chemicals are subject to the procedure and a further 17 are being considered for coverage. Pesticides, as well as industrial and consumer chemicals banned or severely restricted by participating countries for health or environmental reasons, are eligible for inclusion in the procedure.

The listed pesticides are: aldrin, DDT, dieldrin, dinoseb, fluoroacetamide, and HCH (mixed isomers), chlordane, cyhexatin, EDB, heptachlor, chlordimeform and mercury compounds, (as mercuric oxide, mercurous chloride (calomel), other inorganic mercury compounds, alkyl mercury compounds and alkoxyalkyl and aryl mercury compounds).

The listed industrial chemicals are: crocidolite (brown asbestos), polybrominated biphenyls (PBB), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), except mono- and dichlorinated, polychlorinated terphenyls (PCT), and tris (2,3-dibromopropyl) phosphate.

The current PIC procedure does not apply to pharmaceuticals, food additives, radioactive materials, biotechnology products,

chemicals imported for research or analysis in quantities unlikely to affect the environment or human health, and chemicals imported as personal or household effects in reasonable quantities.

How are chemicals identified for inclusion in PIC?

Any chemical banned or severely restricted after January 1992 in at least one participating country is eligible for inclusion.

For chemicals banned or severely restricted prior to January 1992, the process for inclusion in the PIC procedure is based on control actions taken in five or more countries.

Does Canada produce any of the listed chemicals?

Canada produces one potential PIC chemical — lindane. Lindane has been identified as one of the 17 potential PIC chemicals currently undergoing a review on whether it should be included. There are two exporters in Canada of this chemical.

What measures does Canada have in place to manage the import of banned or severely restricted chemicals?

Canada has a well-established chemicals management infrastructure that provides safeguards for chemicals imported into Canada. Industrial chemicals are subject to regulation under both the Canadian Environmental Protection Act and the Hazardous Products Act. Pesticides are managed under the Pest Control Products Act. The transportation of any chemical is subject to the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations.

What procedures does Canada follow as an exporter?

Following the negotiation of the London Guidelines and the International Code of Conduct, Canada implemented the Toxic Substances Export Notification Regulations under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. Canadian companies must notify the government (the Toxic Substances Authority) of the importing country of impending shipments of listed chemicals. The PIC procedure is implemented through voluntary agreements with exporters.

What will be the impact of the agreement on Canadian businesses?

The impact will be minimal, given that Canada does not export any of the listed chemicals (and exports only one chemical that is currently being considered for inclusion).

One of Canada's goals in the negotiations will be to ensure that any trade provisions in the convention are realistic and fair. The government recognizes the important role of Canadian

businesses in helping to develop controls that protect health or the environment. Many Canadian firms have voluntarily exceeded existing standards and guidelines.

Canada will work to ensure that trade-related provisions in the Convention are consistent with international trade rules and not used as trade prohibitions.

Will Canada push to have more chemicals listed under the PIC procedure?

The PIC procedure should not be overloaded by targeting a large number of chemicals or duplicating actions in other international forums. Canada will strive to keep the impact of the new procedure manageable and would support expansion of the criteria used to identify chemicals to the extent justified by demonstrated health and environmental reasons.

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News Release

March 15, 1996

No. 39

VISIT BY EUROPEAN COMMISSION VICE-PRESIDENT, SIR LEON BRITTAN, INITIATES TALKS TOWARD NEW ACCORD

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton announced today that Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner Responsible for Commercial Policy, will visit Ottawa on March 18 to initiate talks towards a Canada-European Union (EU) joint political Declaration and Action Plan for enhanced co-operation in all aspects of the relationship. Minister Eggleton and Sir Leon will also use their Ottawa meeting to review how to further the multilateral trade agenda within the Quadrilateral Trade Ministers' meetings, or "Quad," which will be held in Japan this April.

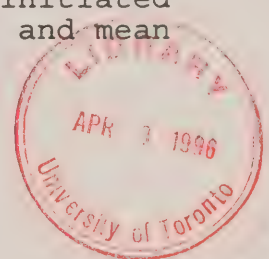
Sir Leon will also pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and meet with Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy on March 18.

"Canadian exports to the EU have increased by over 33 per cent in the last year," said Mr. Eggleton. "This shows the importance of the trade links which span the Atlantic. The process initiated by Sir Leon's visit will further this trading activity and mean more business for Canadian companies and more jobs for Canadians."

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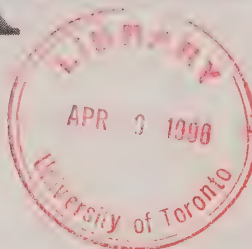
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News Release

March 18, 1996



No. 40

CANADA CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF LA FRANCOPHONIE

Pierre S. Pettigrew, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, today announced that on March 20, Canada will celebrate International Day of la Francophonie. Canadians will join Francophones the world over to celebrate their membership in la Francophonie, which consists of 49 countries and governments with over 400 million people worldwide. March 20 commemorates the creation of the Agency for Technical and Cultural Co-operation in Niamey, Niger, 26 years ago.

"Through its membership in la Francophonie, Canada proudly expresses its national personality at the international level," said Mr. Pettigrew. "The Canadian government is making every effort to help the language and culture of its Francophone population flourish, and to extend its influence internationally."

Recognizing the importance of the French fact in Canada, as well as its international extension, the Government has been associated with la Francophonie from the outset, participating actively in the creation and development of its many institutions.

"More than 8.5 million Canadians speak French," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "For them, la Francophonie is a forum that promotes their sense of identity and their development, and that is similar to other major political spheres of influence, such as the Commonwealth and the Organization of American States."

"Canada is proud of its membership in la Francophonie, which, beyond matters of language and culture, helps promote fundamental values such as democracy and human rights," added Mr. Pettigrew.



Mr. Pettigrew has invited the representatives of Francophone countries to a ceremony at the Parliament Buildings on March 20, during which la Francophonie awards will be presented. Attending the ceremony will be dignitaries from Parliament and the Cabinet, among others.

Also featured during the day will be a speech in the House of Commons by Mr. Axworthy.

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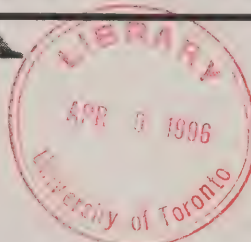
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News Release

March 19, 1996

No. 41



EGGLETON TO ATTEND SECOND WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRADE MINISTERIAL AND VISIT CHILE

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that he will attend the second Western Hemisphere Trade Ministerial in Cartagena, Colombia, on March 20 and 21 and visit Chile on March 22.

At the Summit of the Americas in December 1994, 34 elected heads of government in the Western Hemisphere pledged to negotiate a free trade area of the Americas (FTAA) by 2005. Ministers responsible for trade were directed to oversee preparatory work and the negotiation of such an agreement.

In Cartagena, ministers will decide on priorities for preparatory work over the next year and initiate discussions on what form an eventual FTAA will take. They will review the preparatory work of the seven technical working groups established at their first meeting in Denver, Colorado, in June 1995 and are expected to establish four additional working groups.

"It is critical at this point that we begin to define and reach agreement on what the FTAA will contain," said Mr. Eggleton. "This will help determine what structure the agreement will take and enable us to begin substantive negotiations soon. Only by doing so will we maintain the momentum to achieve our leaders' vision of an FTAA by 2005."

During his stay in Cartagena, Mr. Eggleton will meet with Mexico's Minister of Trade and Industrial Promotion, Herminio Blanco, to discuss implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). He will also meet Canadian business representatives participating in the 1996 Americas Business Forum being held in conjunction with the FTAA ministerial meeting.

While in Santiago on March 22, Mr. Eggleton will call on Chilean President Eduardo Frei and meet with Minister of Finance Eduardo Aninat to discuss the current status of negotiations on the



interim Canada-Chile trade agreement covering trade and investment and environmental and labour co-operation. This package of agreements will provide a bridge to Chile's full accession to the NAFTA.

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A backgrounder on the proposed free trade area of the Americas is attached.

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Background

THE FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS

At the Summit of the Americas in December 1994, 34 elected heads of government in the Western Hemisphere met in Miami in the spirit of greater co-operation on issues of mutual interest and concern. Government leaders approved a Declaration of Principles and a Plan of Action that highlighted the Summit's themes of liberalizing trade, guaranteeing sustainable development and strengthening democracy.

On the trade front, Summit leaders committed to negotiate a free trade area of the Americas (FTAA) by 2005 at the latest. They called for concrete progress by 1999 and directed their ministers responsible for trade to oversee preparatory work and the negotiation of such an agreement.

The First Western Hemisphere Trade Ministerial

At the first Western Hemisphere Trade Ministerial in Denver, Colorado, in June 1995, ministers agreed that the FTAA will:

- maximize market openness through high levels of discipline;
- be fully consistent with the World Trade Organization (WTO);
- be balanced and comprehensive; and
- represent a single undertaking comprising mutual rights and obligations.

To achieve such an agreement, ministers agreed on a program of preparatory work to be completed by officials prior to their next meeting in March 1996. Seven working groups were established in the following areas: market access; customs procedures and rules of origin; investment; standards and technical barriers to trade; sanitary and phytosanitary measures; subsidies, antidumping and countervailing duties; and a working group on smaller economies.

The working groups were instructed to gather and exchange information and to analyze and compare data with a view to making recommendations for negotiations in each area. Canada is actively involved in each of the working groups and currently chairs the working group on standards and technical barriers to trade. The work programs of these groups are crucial to ensuring that countries are prepared to negotiate the FTAA.

The working groups have established their priorities for additional preparatory work over the next year, which they will submit to ministers for approval. Ministers are expected to establish additional working groups on government procurement, intellectual property rights, services and competition policy.

Canadian positions

In Canada's view, the FTAA will complement subregional economic integration efforts already under way, such as the Canada-Chile bilateral free trade agreement. Canada believes that a regional trade liberalization initiative using WTO commitments as a starting point should allow participants to proceed faster and go farther in integrating their economies than is possible in the WTO. All 34 FTAA countries are either WTO members or apply WTO rules.

The Miami and Denver Declarations committed participants to "build on" existing subregional and bilateral arrangements. However, the FTAA will not be achieved through a passive convergence of existing agreements, or by countries joining an existing agreement. Canada advocated last June in Denver that there are two fundamental questions all FTAA members must answer: *what* provisions will the FTAA contain and *how* will we go about negotiating these provisions, individually or bloc to bloc? Clearly, the first issue is *what* is in the agreement as this will in many ways determine *how* the FTAA will be negotiated.

Canadian Trade and Investment in the Western Hemisphere

Exports to FTAA members (excluding Mexico and the United States) grew by about 20 per cent in 1995 to reach \$3.9 billion, bringing the total value of two-way trade to \$7.5 billion. Exports to Latin America registered particularly impressive increases, with exports to Brazil up by 32 per cent, exports to Chile up by 23 per cent, Argentina up by 18 per cent and Peru up by 68 per cent. Canadian investment in FTAA countries (excluding Mexico and the United States) also grew to approximately \$15 billion in 1995.

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News Release

March 20, 1996

No. 42

EGGLETON WELCOMES STENTOR ALLIANCE AS "PARTNER IN TRADE"

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today welcomed the participation of Stentor Alliance as an official sponsor of the 1996 Canada Export Awards. Stentor, the alliance of full-service telephone companies, will join other 1996 corporate sponsors – the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and the Export Development Corporation.

"The collaborative efforts between government and the private sector in this year's Canada Export Awards program is a testimony to the Team Canada approach to international trade," said Mr. Eggleton. "It is with great pleasure that the Department along with these three respected organizations acknowledge the outstanding achievements of successful Canadian companies."

"Today's most competitive businesses must be able to sell their products and services, technology and ideas to serve their customers wherever they may be. We are proud to be part of this program to recognize Canadian success stories," said Carol Stephenson, President and CEO, Stentor Resource Centre Inc.

The Canada Export Awards are presented annually by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to Canadian companies that have achieved success in the international marketplace. This year's presentation will be held on October 7, 1996, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in conjunction with the annual convention of the Canadian Exporters' Association.

The owner companies of Stentor include AGT Ltd., BC TEL, Bell Canada, Island Tel, Manitoba Telephone System, Maritime Tel & Tel, NBTel, Newfoundland Telephone, Northwestel, Québec-Téléphone, and SaskTel.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Shannon Day
Stentor Communications
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News Release

March 22, 1996

No. 43

VISIT BY FRENCH MINISTER-DELEGATE FOR FINANCE AND FOREIGN TRADE REAFFIRMS TRANSATLANTIC ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP THROUGH THE CANADA-FRANCE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that Mr. Yves Galland, French Minister-Delegate for Finance and Foreign Trade, will visit Canada March 24-27. As part of this visit, Mr. Galland will participate with Mr. Eggleton in the Canada-France Joint Economic Commission on March 25.

"Canada and France have a long-standing commercial relationship. The Canada-France Joint Economic Commission is one important part of this relationship," said Mr. Eggleton. "With the NAFTA [North American Free Trade Agreement] and the dynamism of Quebec's business community, Canada can offer French investors a bilingual gateway into the North American market."

During his visit, Mr. Galland will hold meetings with Mr. Eggleton and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lloyd Axworthy. Mr. Galland will meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, as well as with Secretary of State (International Financial Institutions), Douglas Peters and Bank of Canada Governor, Gordon Thiessen.

In addition to visiting Ottawa, Mr. Galland will travel to Toronto, where he will meet with Premier Mike Harris, and to Québec City, where he will meet with Premier Lucien Bouchard. He will also meet with government officials and business leaders in both provincial capitals.

Mr. Galland's visit coincides with the tenth biennial meeting of the Joint Economic Commission. This year, the Commission will focus on high-technology sectors, including information technology, the environment and transportation. For the first time, the Commission will be open to Canadian and French business representatives, who will contribute their views on ways to augment and enrich the Canada-France commercial relationship.



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France is Canada's fifth-largest investor. The value of French investments in Canada has quadrupled, going from \$1.3 billion to \$4.5 billion in the last 10 years. Canadian investments in France have also progressed, reaching approximately \$2 billion in 1994, from the 1983 total of \$222 million.

"The roots of Canada as a country can be found in its transatlantic links to France and England," said Mr. Eggleton. "Minister Galland's visit builds on our shared culture and history, and furthers these ties in the new global environment."

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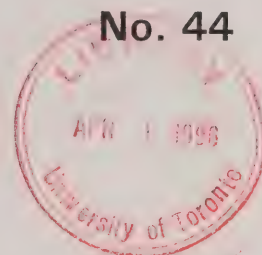
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News Release

March 25, 1996

No. 44

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES TO RENEW DEFENCE AGREEMENT



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of National Defence David Collenette today announced that Canada and the United States will renew the North American Aerospace Defence (NORAD) Agreement for the eighth time since it was first signed in 1958. This follows extensive national consultation and a debate in the House of Commons on March 11.

"NORAD is the most important bilateral security and defence agreement Canada has with the United States," said Mr. Axworthy, "and is yet another example of the benefits of our unique alliance. The revised 1996 NORAD Agreement better reflects the post-Cold War strategic environment, and will be even more relevant to Canada's current and projected security needs."

NORAD was originally established to provide fighter defence against long-range Soviet bombers, but its mandate has evolved with the mission emphasis shifting from air defence to warning of attack by aircraft and missiles. This shift was reflected in the 1975 renewal, which redefined NORAD's missions in several ways, including assisting each nation in safeguarding sovereign airspace, contributing to deterrence by warning of attack, and ensuring an appropriate response against air attack if required. In 1991, the air sovereignty mission was clarified to include detection and monitoring of aircraft suspected of drug trafficking. With the ending of the Cold War, costs have been reduced significantly, and are expected to decline still further in coming years.

"For nearly 40 years, NORAD has proven to be a cost-effective way to protect our sovereignty and security – both in terms of responding to potential military threats and in countering non-military challenges such as drug smuggling," said Mr. Collenette. "It would be far more expensive for Canada to provide for this alone."

Although Canada does not face the same threat that it did during the Cold War, the capability to exercise effective surveillance and control over Canadian airspace remains a basic defence



requirement. NORAD's missions now include aerospace warning and aerospace control for North America. The aerospace warning mission includes the monitoring of human-made objects in space and the detection, validation and warning of aerospace attack against North America. The aerospace control mission provides surveillance and control, including air defence, over Canadian and U.S. airspace.

The renewal of NORAD was endorsed in 1994 by both the Special Joint Committee on Canada's Defence Policy and the Special Joint Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy, which recommended a shift of emphasis from air defence to global space surveillance. This view was also reflected in two subsequent government documents, the 1994 Defence White Paper and the Canadian foreign policy statement "Canada and the World." In addition to involvement in NORAD, Canada remains firmly committed to the 1972 ABM Treaty, a bilateral Russia-U.S. agreement to limit the deployment of ballistic missile defences.

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Department of National Defence
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News Release

March 25, 1996

No. 45

MINISTER AXWORTHY TO VISIT WASHINGTON

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will make his first official visit to Washington March 27-28 to consult with United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher on bilateral and multilateral issues. During their meeting, Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Christopher will sign the five-year renewal of the North American Aerospace Defence (NORAD) agreement, a decision supported during a House of Commons debate earlier this month.

"There is a strong commitment on both sides of the border to pursue common bilateral goals, despite periodic differences in our foreign policy. Our successful collaboration is evident in our co-operative approaches to peace in the Middle East, Bosnia and Haiti," Mr. Axworthy said. "We are good friends who share the world's largest trading relationship. I look forward to my discussions with U.S. decision makers on a number of key bilateral and multilateral issues."

During his visit, Mr. Axworthy will also meet with Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of Labor Robert Reich and key members of Congress. He will use his meetings in Washington to discuss the Middle East Peace Process, the situations in Bosnia and Haiti, and UN reform and funding. He will also express Canada's concerns regarding Pacific Salmon Treaty obligations and the recent U.S. legislation on Cuba.

On March 27, Mr. Axworthy will address the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University on the evolution of the Canada/U.S. relationship.

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News Release

March 26, 1996

No. 46

CANADIAN COMPANIES SUCCESSFUL AT CEBIT '96

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable John Manley, Industry Minister, announced today that Canadian companies participating in CeBIT '96, held in Hannover, Germany from March 14 to 20, successfully concluded a number of significant deals.

"The 35 companies in the Canada Pavilion alone negotiated 151 distributorship and agency agreements, 54 joint ventures and strategic alliances, and signed contracts worth \$3.7 million in short-term sales, projecting a further \$81.9 million over the next three years," said Mr. Eggleton.

"CeBIT has long been a key focus of trade promotion efforts in Europe, a major market for Canada," Mr. Eggleton added. "Trade with Europe is flourishing, and export opportunities there are expanding."

"Canadian companies are at the forefront of much new development in information technology. The number of new partnerships and the dollar amount of contracts signed are proof of that," said Mr. Manley. "CeBIT '96 was the perfect opportunity for world-class Canadian information technology companies to display their innovative products and services."

More than 60 Canadian information technology companies of all sizes exhibited telecommunications equipment and computer hardware, software and services in this year's CeBIT trade show.

CeBIT is the world's most widely attended and comprehensive showcase of information systems, office automation products, and telecommunications products and services. Canada has been an active participant in CeBIT since 1984. More than 6500 exhibitors participated in this year's event, which attracted over 600 000 visitors.

CeBIT attracts more professional decision makers, distributors, wholesalers, agents, retailers and importers than any other computer and communications trade show in the world. Germany's



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place at the crossroads of Eastern, Western and Central Europe enhances CeBIT's status as a platform for initiating profitable, enduring partnerships.

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The attached backgrounder presents highlights of contracts signed, new alliances formed, and new products introduced by Canadian companies at CeBIT '96. A detailed press kit of background information about Canada's information technology sector and CeBIT participation is available upon request.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Industry Canada
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Background

CANADIAN ANNOUNCEMENTS AT CeBIT '96

Industry Canada - "Canada in Cyberspace"

Internet is a world phenomenon. Industry Canada hosted a World Wide Web site through which visitors to the Canada Pavilion at CeBIT '96 were able to obtain information about Canada's leading-edge Internet product suppliers and link directly to their Web sites.

The Industry Canada Internet site, "Canada in Cyberspace," featuring 41 Canadian providers of Internet products, generated considerable interest. More than 12 Canadian exhibitors at CeBIT requested their profiles be added to "Canada in Cyberspace," to benefit from the international exposure this site provides. The Industry Canada Internet site raises Canada's profile as a powerhouse of innovations for the Internet.

"Canada in Cyberspace" features short profiles of companies seeking international partners, and showcases Internet products including hardware, software, information services, Web software, authoring tools, ISDN hardware, modems, routers and firewalls. The profiles are sorted by technology and company name. Each profile contains both Web and e-mail links, allowing direct contact with the company.

Canadian Exhibitor Announcements

Alpha Technologies Ltd. of Burnaby, B.C., identified 10 potential distributors in Germany. The company is a world leader in the manufacture of application-specific powering solutions for voice, video and data communication systems.

Contact: Olga Shandersky (604) 430-1476

ANILLUSION Technologies Inc. of Quebec City, Que., introduced Mirage FX, a stereoscopic 3D graphics accelerator board specifically designed for virtual reality systems. Mirage FX allows PC users to access the power of virtual reality tools. The company, introducing its first product and participating in its first international trade show, also identified two German distributors and negotiated joint ventures/strategic alliances with five organizations from France, Germany and Poland. Projected sales from CeBIT activity are \$200 000 over the next three years.

Contact: Christian Plante (418) 877-6431

ARC Media Inc. of Toronto, Ont., introduced several new CD-ROM titles. The company signed two contracts worth \$4 million over the next three years, appointed an agent/distributor, and negotiated one joint venture/strategic alliance. ARC Media is a top Canadian multimedia CD-ROM publisher, offering more than 50 reference, lifestyle and entertainment titles for both Macintosh and MS-Windows.

Contact: Oliver Huang (416) 410-4429

Argus Research of Burnaby, B.C., introduced the RSM 48/100 Modular Switched Mode Rectifier, and Power System for Minicells. This three-phase 208 or 380 VAC unit is designed for central office applications worldwide. The company identified 12 potential agents and distributors. A member of the Alpha group of companies, Argus Research develops 12V, 24V and 48V custom DC power systems (up to 1200A current capacity) for communications applications in central office, cellular, CPE, PBX, fibre-optic and transmission systems.

Contact: Debbie McLeod (604) 436-5900

Caravelle Inc. of Nepean, Ont., introduced WebWATCHER, a powerful, cost-effective tool to ensure that Web sites and other critical Internet services are up and running by continuous real-time monitoring, and to provide notification in the event of problems. The company also appointed a distributor in the Netherlands.

Contact: Debbie Parkhill (613) 225-1172

Cimmetry Systems Inc. of Montreal, Que., introduced AutoVue Professional Version 14, which allows fast viewing and powerful marking up of documents on the Windows, UNIX and DOS operating platforms without the need for the originating applications. The company is a software-development company specializing in file viewing and markup technology, and offers a wide range of solutions that apply to CAD, imaging and Windows environments.

Contact: Ron Goldman (514) 735-3219

Connect Tech Inc. of Guelph, Ont., expects to sign a \$250 000 contract as a result of participating in CeBIT, and projects sales from CeBIT activity of more than \$3 million over the next three years. The company is a leading Canadian manufacturer of multi-port serial and micro-to-mainframe products for ISA, EISA, MCA and PC/104 bus compatible computers.

Contact: Michael Powers (519) 836-1291

Corel Corporation of Ottawa, Ont., introduced several new products, including Internet-related products, Ventura 6.0 (a DTP software capable of electronic publishing) and Corel Gallery (Internet Graphics version). While traditional paper publishing remains a strength of Corel Ventura, version 6.0 allows users to publish information on the Internet, on CD-ROM and as Hypertext documents. To this end, several new modules will be tightly integrated into the product offering. Corel is a global leader in the development of graphics and multimedia software, including CorelDRAW, a popular illustration software package.

Contact: Alison Canavan (613) 728-0826

DiscoverWare Inc. (formerly Advance Multimedia Corp.) of Calgary, Alta., introduced several powerful interactive multimedia education products. The company appointed agents/distributors in Germany and identified potential joint ventures/strategic alliances with companies from Germany and Australia. DiscoverWare is a leading developer of multimedia education products for the PC industry's most popular software. The company was recently selected the "High Technology Entrepreneur of the Year" by the High Technology Management Association (HTMA), in conjunction with the Ottawa-Carleton Research Institute (OCRI) and the Canadian Advanced Technology Association (CATA).

Contact: Peter Lossing (403) 237-0426

Eicon Technology of Montreal, Que., introduced the Aviva Mainframe Edition, a display and printer emulation program that enables users of Windows NT or 95 PCs to gain fast, easy access to mainframe-based applications, while completely hiding the complexities associated with a mainframe connection. The company also announced expansion of its family of Multiservice Access Cards, with two new adapters that let small branch offices or individual users access remote computing resources through public or private wide-area network (WAN) services, frame relay, ISDN, X.25, IBM SNA and more. Eicon Technology will be the first to provide worldwide ISDN support for Novell's Netware Connect 2.0. Eicon Technology is a worldwide provider of desktop and server-integrated information-access solutions for the networked enterprise. The company develops, markets and supports hardware and software products that enable personal computers from a wide range of industry-standard platforms and operating environments to access corporate internetworks, IBM SNA networks and on-line information services.

Contact: Media Relations (514) 631-2592

EveryWare Development Corp. of Mississauga, Ont., announced an ODBC upgrade for its popular Web/database integration tool Tango to communicate with industry-standard enterprise databases. Tango is a full-featured visual development tool enabling Web administrators to rapidly create dynamic Web-site solutions that interact with ODBC-compliant databases without writing any HTML or SQL codes.

Contact: Jeff Hendry (905) 819-1173

Farabi Technology Corporation of St. Laurent, Que., signed a contract with Israel and has appointed six distributors in Israel, Colombia, Germany and Italy. The company also established a joint venture with a multinational competitor, and will market products through a single distributor. The company designs, manufactures and markets 5250 emulation, file-transfer and communication server software for personal computers.

Contact: Patricia Sarji (514) 332-3455

Gainbery Computer Products of Markham, Ont., introduced the CPU MAXimizer 686 upgrade series, an integrated upgrade CPU module to replace the P5-60/66 processor. Based on a Cyrix/IBM 6X86 processor, Gainbery has provided a voltage-conversion circuit, together with pin-alignment convertor, which allows P5-60/66 users to double their system power. The company projects sales from CeBIT activity of \$3 million to \$4 million over the next three years. Gainbery specializes in cost-effective computer-enhancement products for the aftermarket.

Contact: Bruce Jenkins (905) 415-0480

Gold Disk Inc. of Mississauga, Ont., negotiated four joint ventures/strategic alliances in Israel, Korea, Hungary and the Czech Republic. The company publishes leading multimedia presentation software and consumer productivity packages.

Contact: David Aldridge (905) 602-4000

LANSource Technologies Inc. of Toronto, Ont., announced WINport 6.0, a major new version of its award-winning modem-sharing software, and introduced FAXport 6.0, a powerful client/server fax solution for LAN and corporate markets. The company also opened a sales, distribution and support office in Bielefeld, Germany. LANSource is a developer of network communications software for fax and data applications.

Contact: Alex Irwin (416) 535-3555

Lanworks Technologies Inc. of Mississauga, Ont., introduced BootWare boot ROMs for Intel EtherExpress Pro/100-B PCI LAN adapters, a product that provides centralized booting management capability to Intel customers. The company is a world leader in centralized booting technologies. The BootWare family of products has been installed on more than one million work stations worldwide.

Contact: Elizabeth Williams (905) 238-5528

Lava Computer MFG Inc. of Toronto, Ont., introduced the Lava Link-650 Windows Communications Accelerator board to the European market. The company signed contracts with companies from the United States, Denmark, the Netherlands, Australia, Germany and the United Kingdom. Distributors were appointed in Germany, Sweden, Belgium and Portugal, and joint ventures and strategic alliances were identified or negotiated with companies in Germany, France, the United Kingdom and the United States. Projected sales from CeBIT activity over the next three years are \$290 000. The company is currently negotiating alliances and/or contracts with every major modem and ISDN manufacturer worldwide.

Contact: Mike Wynnyckyj (416) 674-5942

Mediatrix Peripherals Inc. of Sherbrooke, Que., introduced the DVC/Phone daughterboard for the Audiotrix Pro. With the addition of the DVC/Phone daughterboard, the Audiotrix Pro allows users to turn their computers into long-distance telephones, without any long-distance charges. The company signed two contracts with organizations located in Germany, appointed a distributor in Sweden, and identified or negotiated joint ventures/strategic alliances with companies in Israel, Turkey and Australia.

Contact: David Monty (819) 829-8749

Memory Experts International Inc. of Saint Laurent, Que., appointed three distributors in France, Spain and Portugal, and identified or negotiated joint ventures/strategic alliances with Benelux countries, Croatia and Germany. Projected sales from CeBIT activity are \$12 million over the next three years. The company manufactures memory upgrades for computers, notebooks, work stations, laser printers and plain-paper fax machines.

Contact: Guadalupe Reusing (514) 333-5010

Microplex Systems Ltd. of Burnaby, B.C., introduced the M205 and M206 single parallel port, multi-protocol print server, aimed at the stand-alone printer market, and also announced that it has met EMC Directive regulations, enabling its full line of print

servers to be part of the uniform technical standards for trade in the European Union. The company identified or negotiated joint ventures/strategic alliances with three companies in the United Kingdom, United States and Germany. Projected sales from CeBIT activity are \$3 million over the next three years. Microplex Systems designs and manufactures innovative, high-quality, EU-approved multi-protocol network solutions.

Contact: Gerry Sawkins (604) 444-4232

Mindflight Technology Inc. of Vancouver, B.C., identified 40 distributors or agents in France, Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom, and negotiated or identified joint ventures/strategic alliances in Italy, Spain and France. Projected sales from CeBIT activity are \$9 million over the next years. The company manufactures plug-and-go portable data-storage devices, mass-storage devices and CD-ROM readers and recorders.

Contact: Mike Volker (604) 294-6465

NHC Communications Inc. of Montreal, Que., announced that its new SNMP Controller can now manage NHC's electronic mixed-media switching products using any SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) platform-management system. By integrating NHC's physical-layer switches into the logical management layer, NHC significantly simplifies the task of MIS professionals, and creates enhanced flexibility and value from the existing cable and equipment infrastructure. The company's switching products manage network resources remotely, eliminating the need to move cables and equipment manually. NHC Communications Inc. also offers a complete line of connectivity products for IBM AS/400 and Token Ring.

Contact: Gabrielle Ghillany (514) 735-2741

Network Sciences International Ltd. of Saint Laurent, Que., noted projected sales from CeBIT activity of \$5 million to \$8 million over the next three years. The company designs and implements cost-effective multimedia VSAT networks.

Contact: Mark Macpherson (514) 956-8880

Optical Data Systems Inc. (ODS) of Penticton, B.C., introduced CSI Express, a PC Windows-based program that allows the user to display up to 20 full-colour, full-screen, high-resolution images from a single floppy diskette. Each screen can be individually linked to the World Wide Web. The company also announced that it has been selected to publish the exhibition catalogue CD-ROM for

the first WorldAid 96 Exposition, to be held in Geneva September 30 to October 4, 1996. The CD-ROM will contain a complete listing of exhibitors and organizations participating in WorldAid 96, as well as detailed information on procurement procedures for UN and other major humanitarian agencies. Also announced was an agreement reached with the National Hockey League and Turner Publications to develop and produce a CD-ROM featuring 32 of the greatest international hockey players currently playing in the NHL. The printed version and the CD-ROM will be released this summer to coincide with the World Cup Hockey event, to be held in August/September, 1996. ODS develops multilingual, multimedia, CD-ROM corporate catalogues, directories and entertainment titles.

Contact: Marilyn Eddison (604) 493-8168

Spectracom Technologies Corporation (STC) of Markham, Ont., announced a significant international supply agreement with New Tech Corporation of Norway to supply the Spectrum Environmental Lighting Filter to their customers, including multinational manufacturers of fluorescent bulbs. The agreement has a projected value of about \$4 million in its first year. STC manufactures environmental lighting filters and ergonomically engineered office products.

Contact: Edmund Cameron (905) 305-7400

SR Telecom Inc. of Saint Laurent, Que., announced the expansion of its range of SR500-s fixed wireless telecommunications products, and introduced the 10.5 GHz SR500-s System, radio to the building (RTTB), as well as the SR Telecom Micro II, a briefcase-sized, low-cost, multi-functional indoor/outdoor outstation. The company designs, manufactures and markets Point-to-Multipoint (PMP) Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) systems for the provision of telecommunications services.

Contact: Tim Heaney (514) 335-1210

TCT-ThunderBYTE of Cornwall, Ont., introduced its first native ThunderBYTE Anti-Virus (TBAV) Utilities version 7.0 specifically for Win95, which incorporates heuristic technology and a unique cross-platform licensing agreement. ThunderBYTE and NETpresenter, based in the Netherlands, announced their co-operation on the development of higher standards in corporate security. The objective is integration of automated computer virus protection and distribution of corporate security information. ThunderBYTE and Caravelle Networks Corporation, located in Nepean, Ont., announced a strategic marketing and technology partnership to integrate and promote ThunderBYTE's anti-virus technology with Caravelle's network monitoring and

notification technologies. ThunderBYTE's projected sales from CeBIT activity are \$3.75 million over the next three years.

Contact: Sandy McIntosh (613) 930-4444

Toronto MicroElectronics (TME) of Mississauga, Ont., introduced the first commercially available Pentium single-board computer with a PCI bus integrated SVGA controller. The company manufactures embedded computer boards for the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) market.

Contact: Peter Nelson (905) 625-3203

Quotes

"We've made some good contacts at the show, especially from Western and Eastern Europe and Australia. It's been very interesting for us. Equally important, we came here to see what the competition is doing, and I've discovered we're doing very well compared to them."

Michel Bohbot, President, New-Lab Technologies Inc., Mount Royal, Que.

"We came here to see what people want in virtual reality products so we can provide them with the right ones. We're not really here to sell. We also wanted to make 10 to 15 very promising contacts, and after three days at the show, we've already met that goal."

Christian Plante, President and CEO, ANILLUSION Technologies Inc., Quebec City, Que.

"We came to CeBIT to promote our products in Germany and have been tremendously successful at this, and also to fill in gaps in our European reseller network. CeBIT's been great. It's frightfully important that we're here."

Peter Cox, Border Technologies Inc., Toronto, Ont.

"Exhibiting at CeBIT is giving us fairly good exposure to Europe. I'm quite happy we came. We came here to see what other technology providers are doing, and to find local representation. We've received numerous inquiries about working with companies in several countries, including Eastern Europe."

Winston Brown, Digital Dispatch Systems Inc., Richmond, B.C.

"There's a good variety of products on display at CeBIT, and the show has a strong business orientation. We're meeting a lot of people, getting about 40 good prospective leads a day."

Rob Davis, Mortics Kern Systems (MKS) Inc., Waterloo, Ont.

News Release

March 26, 1996

No. 47

AXWORTHY PRESENTS 1996 AWARD FOR CONSULAR EXCELLENCE



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today presented the 1996 Minister's Award for Consular Excellence to Marelle Elzinga-van Wamelen, Senior Consular Assistant at the Canadian Embassy in The Hague. Ms. Elzinga-van Wamelen was honoured for her outstanding level of assistance to Canadians during the summer of 1995, which included the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands.

"I am very pleased to recognize Ms. Elzinga-van Wamelen's dedication and superior service in assisting Canadians in distress, particularly during the exceptionally busy summer period, which also coincided with the 50th Anniversary celebrations," said Mr. Axworthy. "Her outstanding commitment has made the consular program in The Netherlands second to none."

Mr. John Moore, Mr. Robin Subba, Mr. Donald Ian MacLeod, Ms. Beatriz Barbaglia, Ms. Lyne Benoit and Ms. Fatima Anabtawi were also presented with citations for exemplary service in the consular field.

Mr. Moore, Counsellor (Development) and Consul, Mr. Subba, a locally engaged Consular Officer, and the entire staff of the Canadian Co-operation Office in Kathmandu, Nepal, were honoured for their tireless and exceptional efforts following a tragic landslide in Nepal, by co-ordinating a massive search and verification process involving more than 1075 Canadian trekkers in the country.

Mr. MacLeod, First Secretary (Commercial) and Consul, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, was recognized for his exhaustive and persistent efforts assisting Canadians in two demanding consular cases, one involving a lengthy trial and the other concerning the deaths of nine Canadians in a helicopter crash in Kyrgyzstan.



Ms. Barbaglia, a locally engaged Consular Assistant in Buenos Aires, Argentina, received a citation for consistently high standards of consular performance and for outstanding work on a difficult and sensitive child-abduction case.

Ms. Benoit, Canada's Honorary Consul in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, was honoured for providing exceptional consular service on a regular basis to Canadians in Puerto Vallarta as well as along the coast of Jalisco and in the states of Colima and Nayarit, and for her tireless assistance after the earthquake in the area in 1995.

Ms. Anabtawi, a locally engaged Consular Assistant in Tripoli, Libya, was cited for her enthusiastic service and remarkable work in helping Canadians.

The Minister's Award for Consular Excellence is presented annually as part of the Department's Recognition and Awards Program.

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News Release

March 26, 1996

No. 48

AXWORTHY PRESENTS 1996 AWARD FOR FOREIGN POLICY EXCELLENCE



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the winner of the 1996 Minister's Award for Foreign Policy Excellence. Ken Sunquist, Minister (Commercial) and Chargé d'affaires, will receive the award for his exceptional performance during a difficult and intense period of activity in the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Sunquist was in charge of Canada's Embassy in Beijing during a period of rapid expansion, which included the largest number of Canadians ever to visit the People's Republic of China during the United Nations World Conference of Women, and numerous other visits by federal ministers, business leaders, and government officials. He also accompanied Premier Li Peng and a large delegation of Chinese leaders on a highly successful visit to Canada in October 1995.

"Throughout this hectic period, Mr. Sunquist provided leadership in protecting and promoting Canada's interests and fostered a spirit of teamwork and openness within the Embassy," said Mr. Axworthy. "I witnessed this competence first-hand when I visited Beijing last summer."

Citations for exemplary service in the foreign policy field were also presented to Gerry Ohlsen, Allan Culham and the Greenland Halibut Task Force.

Gerry Ohlsen, Acting High Commissioner in Lagos, was recognized for his ongoing management of an important mission, his perceptive assessments and his support for human rights in Nigeria.

Allan Culham, Director, Energy and Nuclear Affairs Division, received a citation for his leadership, negotiating skills and dedication in working to ensure consensus in the G-7 on nuclear



issues at the Halifax Economic Summit, as well as for his subsequent negotiations with Ukraine, which led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the G-7 and Ukraine to close Chernobyl by the year 2000.

The members of the Greenland Halibut Task Force were cited for their exceptional efforts defending Canadian interests in the preservation of Greenland halibut against European overfishing of the stock in the Atlantic Ocean outside the 200-mile zone. The task force was successful in ensuring that Canada's relations with the European Union and its member states remained balanced and that a treaty was concluded to protect the Greenland halibut.

The Minister's Award for Foreign Policy Excellence is presented annually as part of the Department's Recognition and Awards Program.

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News Release

March 26, 1996

No. 49

EGGLETON AWARDS THE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE CHALLENGE CUP TO CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today presented the Minister for International Trade Challenge Cup to the members of a team of graduate business students from Concordia University of Montreal.

Concordia University won the Minister's Cup as the top Canadian team, in the annual Dalhousie University International Business Case Competition. Members of the winning Canadian team are James McKenna, Ingrid Pavilanis, Nevill Smythe and Helen Trifonopoulos. The team faculty advisor is Dr. Jan Meyers. Concordia University also received the international Maritime Tel & Tel Trophy as the overall winner of the competition.

"I want to congratulate Dalhousie for the organization of the competition. With international business as its focus the competition helps prepare Canadian students for the challenges they will face in the global marketplace," Mr. Eggleton said. "I congratulate the Concordia team on a winning effort against global competitors."

Drawing on real international business situations, this unique competition is conducted via fax and teleconferencing. The competition was established in 1987 by graduate students at Dalhousie University with sponsorship by the Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company.

This year the competition grew to 18 universities – up from 13 last year – including teams from Finland, Ireland, Scotland, England, Mexico, Argentina, the United States and Canada. The five finalists were the University of Helsinki, Finland; Boston College and Northeastern University of Boston; Memorial University of Newfoundland; and Concordia University of Montreal.

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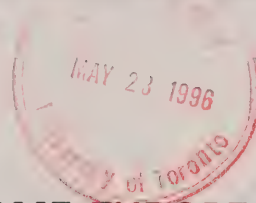
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News Release

March 26, 1996

No. 50



AXWORTHY AND EGGLETON WELCOME EUROPEAN UNION DECISION TO START NEGOTIATIONS ON CLOSER RELATIONS WITH CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton today welcomed the decision by the European Council of Ministers to begin negotiations leading to a Canada-European Union Political Declaration and an Action Plan on closer transatlantic economic and political co-operation. This latest development comes as a response to a Canadian proposal for renewed transatlantic relations that was made in mid-January.

"This decision confirms the importance that the European Union attaches to its relations with Canada," said Mr. Axworthy. "These relations need to be redefined and strengthened to take account of the new dynamics emerging from European integration."

Canada is seeking to enhance bilateral co-operation with the European Union in many areas including foreign and security policy, and global issues such as human rights, international crime, migration and the environment. Canada and the European Union will expand people-to-people contacts such as student exchanges, a transatlantic business dialogue and regular meetings of parliamentarians.

High on the Canadian agenda is a proposal for a detailed study on the benefits of transatlantic trade liberalization. Two-way trade between Canada and the European Union expanded by 18 per cent last year. During that period, Canadian exports to Europe increased by 33 per cent to total more than \$16 billion.

"These discussions mark the beginning of an era of increased co-operation on trade and economic relations as well as on political ties," Mr. Eggleton said. "With increased market opportunities in Europe, there will be more business for Canadian companies and more jobs for Canadians."



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The first round of negotiations is scheduled to start on April 2 in Brussels, less than two weeks after the visit to Ottawa of the Vice-President of the European Commission, Sir Leon Brittan. Senior officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will form the Canadian delegation involved in the discussions that will define the parameters of a new, strengthened relationship.

The decision to deepen transatlantic relations is the result of consultations among Canada, the European Commission and Member States of the European Union in recent months. This follows a proposal along those lines made in December 1994 by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

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News Release

March 26, 1996

No. 51



CANADIAN MINISTERS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON EMPLOYMENT WITH G-7 COUNTERPARTS IN LILLE

Industry Minister John Manley and Human Resources Development Minister Douglas Young will meet with their G-7 counterparts to exchange views and discuss ways of encouraging job creation and reducing unemployment when they meet in Lille, France, at the G-7 Employment Conference, April 1-2, 1996.

The Conference is a follow-up to the Detroit Jobs Conference of 1994 and the G-7 Economic Summit held in Halifax in June 1995. It precedes the annual Ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in Paris May 21 and 22, and the G-7 Economic Summit in Lyon, France, June 28 and 29.

"Getting unemployed Canadians back to work is a major priority for the Government of Canada," said Minister Young. "All of the G-7 countries are facing similar situations with unemployment and changing economies. The Lille conference is an opportunity for Canada to share its experiences and ideas for stimulating growth and long-term employment and to learn more about the innovative approaches being taken by other G-7 countries."

"Our government is committed to creating jobs for Canadians through a stronger economy," said Minister Manley. "We believe that increased use, and innovative use, of technology is needed to make Canadian business more competitive and will result in sustained job creation."

French President Jacques Chirac will address the ministers at the conference. This meeting will also provide the opportunity for discussion with the Secretary General of the OECD, Jean-Claude



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Paye, and the Director General of the International Labour Organization, Michel Hansenne.

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News Release

March 29, 1996

No. 52

AXWORTHY TO VISIT PARIS AND GENEVA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today that he will visit Paris on April 2 and Geneva on April 3 during his first trip to Europe in this portfolio.

While in Paris, Mr. Axworthy will meet with his counterpart, French Foreign Affairs Minister Hervé de Charette, to discuss a range of bilateral issues and other topics of mutual interest such as the United Nations Mission in Haiti, the G-7, the Middle East Peace Process and the situation in the former Yugoslavia.

"Our relations with France have always been productive and friendly. We are close partners committed to strengthening our transatlantic relations in the political, trade, economic and cultural spheres. I look forward to promoting our common agenda personally with Mr. de Charette," said Mr. Axworthy.

In Geneva, Mr. Axworthy will address the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. He will become the first Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister to speak in this forum.

"My address will reflect the priority that Canadians attach to human rights, including children's rights. I plan to support the renewal and strengthening of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and its efforts to ensure that human rights become universally recognized and respected. Furthermore, I will ask that it be provided the tools necessary to address the challenges posed by emerging technologies and political and economic changes," the Minister said.

Mr. Axworthy will also meet with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. José Ayala Lasso, and Canadian representatives of



non-governmental organizations participating in the Commission's deliberations.

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News Release

March 29, 1996

No. 53

CANADA TO ASSIST ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY IN COMBATTING TERRORISM

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada has agreed to assist the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to purchase sophisticated Canadian bomb detection equipment. This decision is in keeping with the commitment Prime Minister Chrétien made at the "Summit of the Peacemakers," held March 13, 1996, in Sharm el-Sheik, to help further the Peace Process and confront terrorism in the Middle East.

"Through this measure, Canada will make a significant, concrete and effective contribution to the prevention of further terrorist attacks in Israel," said Mr. Axworthy.

Under this initiative, assistance to the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority will take the form of a contribution of \$1 million, which is to be used to purchase state-of-the-art bomb detection equipment manufactured in Canada.

"Canada continues to demonstrate its ongoing commitment to the Middle East Peace Process and the fight against international terrorism. Our goal is to help bring peace and security to all people in the region," said Mr. Axworthy.

Working group meetings, such as the one held yesterday and today in Washington, D.C., to follow up on the Sharm el-Sheik summit, give Canada the opportunity to help develop and promote multilateral initiatives to further the Peace Process and fight against terrorism. Canada will be involved in the preparation of, and will be represented at, a ministerial meeting in mid-April, which is expected to yield concrete measures to combat terrorism.

Funding for this contribution was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework. This initiative is an example of how this government



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is prioritizing its spending so that it can serve Canadians better by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

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News Release

April 1, 1996

No. 54

EGGLETON RELEASES 1996 REGISTER OF U.S. BARRIERS TO TRADE

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today released the 1996 *Register of United States Barriers to Trade*.

The publication is an illustrative list of U.S. barriers to the free flow of goods, services and investment. Examples include U.S. subsidies, unilateral trade remedy practices, discriminatory government procurement, investment restrictions, customs procedures, and technical barriers to trade.

In releasing the *Register*, the Minister noted that these barriers affect a relatively small proportion of overall Canada-U.S. trade.

"This is the world's largest trade relationship," said Mr. Eggleton. "With more than \$1 billion in goods and services crossing the border each day, it is inevitable that we face a certain number of disputes or barriers."

Mr. Eggleton noted the important role played by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in reducing these barriers and providing a rules-based framework to manage disputes. The *Register* includes a detailed listing of cases where Canada has used the dispute settlement provisions of these agreements to address U.S. trade barriers affecting Canadian interests.

Over the last four years, Canada's exports to the U.S. have more than doubled. "Canadian exports to the United States have been the main engine of economic growth in the Canadian economy," said Mr. Eggleton. "Those barriers that remain are of deep concern to Canadian exporters, and we will keep working to remove or reduce them."



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Canada's release of the *Register* coincides with the publication by the U.S. Administration of the annual *National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers*, which describes trade barriers maintained by U.S. trading partners, including Canada.

The *Register of United States Barriers to Trade* may be obtained by contacting the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's InfoCentre at 1-800-267-8376 (toll-free), or, in the Ottawa area, at 944-4000. Requests by fax can be directed to (613) 996-9709. The *Register* is also available through your fax machine via **FaxLink** at (613) 944-4500, and through your computer via the **InfoCentre Bulletin Board (IBB)** at (613) 944-1581.

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News Release

April 2, 1996

No. 55

CANADA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM PROTECTED UNDER THE NAFTA

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable David Dingwall, Minister of Health, announced today that Canada, the United States and Mexico signed a letter confirming that existing provincial measures, including health care services, are fully protected under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

All health care services are protected to the extent that they are social services established or maintained for a public purpose. In recent weeks, concerns have been expressed by certain provinces that Canadian public health care services that were not listed under Annex II of the NAFTA might be vulnerable to U.S. encroachment. In the letter, the three parties agreed that all existing health care services are protected.

"We have worked with our U.S. and Mexican colleagues to allay the fears expressed about health care services. I am very pleased that we were able to reach an agreement that confirms the protection of the health sector," said Mr. Eggleton.

"I am pleased with this agreement," said Mr. Dingwall. "As I have been telling Canadians, they can rest assured that medicare is safe. This further confirms that Canada's publicly financed, universal health care system is not in any way jeopardized by the NAFTA."

This agreement reaffirms the NAFTA's full protection of social services in Canada, including health.

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Backgrounder

NAFTA TRILATERAL AGREEMENT ON LISTING STATE AND PROVINCIAL RESERVATIONS

Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Parties may list non-conforming measures in various ways. In Annex II, all three Parties to the NAFTA have set out identical reservations for certain sectors, notably for social services like health to the extent that they are social services established or maintained for a public purpose. Parties do not need to list specific measures under Annex II. Moreover, they may introduce new NAFTA inconsistent measures in those sectors. In particular, this protects all key elements of the Canadian health care system.

Any remaining non-conforming measures not captured by the broad carveouts in Annex II are to be listed in Annex I. These carveouts are exceptions to basic NAFTA rules which require that service suppliers and investors from other NAFTA Parties be permitted to operate under the same conditions as Canadians. Measures were to be specifically listed and, if not, could not be maintained. The federal governments of the three Parties had already listed their measures, but states and provinces were given until March 31, 1996, to compile their lists.

In preparation for the March 31 deadline, the federal government worked closely with the provinces to ensure effective coverage under Annex I. Some provinces were concerned to the extent that a measure might not be covered by the extensive carveout in Annex II. The three NAFTA Parties have recently agreed, however, to each table only a short general reservation under Annex I covering all state and provincial measures. While they will continue to exchange lists of detailed measures as previously, this will be for transparency purposes only. This approach ensures that all existing provincial measures are captured, regardless of whether or not they are listed.

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News Release

April 2, 1996

MAY 23 1996 No. 56

AGREEMENT ON SOFTWOOD EXPORTS PRESERVES U.S. MARKET ACCESS FOR FIVE YEARS, EGGLETON SAYS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that Canada has finalized an agreement with the United States in which the United States makes an unprecedented commitment not to launch any trade actions on softwood lumber exports from Canada for the next five years.

In return, Canada has agreed that softwood lumber exports to the United States originating from British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta that exceed 14.7 billion board feet a year will be subject to a US\$50 per thousand board feet border fee for the first 650 million board feet, and US\$100 per thousand board feet for greater quantities. No fee will be charged on shipments below 14.7 billion board feet, which level is higher than the average annual level of exports of softwood lumber from those four provinces over the years 1992 to 1994.

Exports from the four affected provinces reached a record level of 16.2 billion board feet in 1995, and averaged 12.6 billion board feet over the last three years. Based on 1995's record, the fee would apply to approximately 9 per cent of exports from the four provinces. Revenues from the fee will be collected by the Government of Canada, and will be remitted to the four provinces.

The export fee will not apply to exports from Manitoba, Saskatchewan or the Territories, whose exports will be unaffected by the agreement. Canada, in conjunction with the Maritime provinces and Newfoundland, has reached an understanding with the United States that maintains their traditional exemption.

Canada agreed to propose this fee during negotiations with the United States at the request of British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta, which together represent nearly 90 per cent of softwood exports to the United States. The vast majority of the lumber industry also indicated its support. The provinces concluded that a uniform, harmonized approach would ensure that lumber companies from across the country had equitable access to the



U.S. market. "I am convinced that this agreement is in the national interest," said Mr. Eggleton.

Over the past 15 years, Canadian softwood lumber has been subject to three U.S. countervailing duty investigations, involving major costs and uncertainties for Canadian exporters.

"As a result of the deal, Canadian lumber companies will not have to face U.S. trade actions that would have resulted in both high U.S. tariffs on all Canadian softwood exports and expensive legal battles," Mr. Eggleton said. "The tariffs and legal fees would have far exceeded any fees payable under this deal."

"By ensuring that we continue to have secure access to the U.S. market, this agreement will protect Canadian jobs," he said.

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Backgrounder

SOFTWOOD LUMBER FEE: HOW IT WORKS

Shipments of softwood lumber originating in British Columbia, Quebec, Alberta and Ontario amounting to less than 14.7 billion board feet per year will enter the United States free of any export fee. That amount exceeds the level of Canadian exports from the four provinces in all years except 1995.

The Canada-United States Softwood Lumber Agreement assigns no specific shares by province.

Above 14.7 billion board feet, exporters will face a fee of US\$50 per thousand board feet for the first 650 million board feet, and US\$100 per thousand board feet for amounts beyond the 15.35 billion board feet per year level.

The federal government will establish company allocations after consulting the lumber trade (i.e. producers, wholesalers, other exporters) and the provinces, as well as other interested parties. Any exporter willing to pay a fee of US\$100 per thousand board feet will be able to ship unlimited quantities.

No licences will be required for shipments from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Atlantic Provinces or the Territories.

The Agreement provides for an increase in exports without fee for each calendar quarter when the average price exceeds US\$405 per thousand board feet in the first two years and US\$410 in the last three years. The current Great Lakes price is US\$385 per thousand board feet.

Revenues collected through the export fee by the Government of Canada will be distributed to the provinces in accordance with their share of lumber shipments subject to the fee.

Backgrounder

CANADA-U.S. SOFTWOOD LUMBER AGREEMENT

In 1995, Canada's softwood lumber exports to the United States reached record levels of 17 billion board feet valued at \$8 billion. Exports from British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta were approximately 16.2 billion board feet. This compares with average exports from these provinces over the last three years of 12.6 billion board feet.

The Canada-United States Softwood Lumber Agreement will provide Canadian softwood lumber exporters with a guarantee against U.S. trade actions for the next five years. It includes an unprecedented U.S. government commitment to dismiss any new petitions for trade action.

The Agreement does not establish a target for reducing Canadian exports. Based on 1995's record shipments, approximately 9 per cent of exports from the four provinces would be subject to an export fee.

A fee of US\$50 per thousand board feet will be applied to lumber exports from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec on the first 650 million board feet in excess of 14.7 billion board feet a year.

A fee of US\$100 per thousand board feet will be applied to shipments from these provinces in excess of 15.35 billion board feet. No fee will be applied to lumber produced in Atlantic Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan or the Territories, which together had estimated total exports of 0.8 billion board feet in 1995.

Revenues collected as a result of the fee will be remitted to the four provinces.

Although Canada won the last softwood lumber dispute with the United States in 1994 when the issue went to a panel under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the U.S. industry was threatening to file a new case. The Canadian lumber industry was faced with another long and costly legal battle with an uncertain outcome because of changed circumstances. Canada's share of the U.S. market had increased from 26 per cent in 1990 to 36 per cent in 1995, and the United States had changed its trade legislation.

If applied to 1995 exports, the export fee announced April 2, 1996, would have resulted in a cost to the lumber industry in the four provinces of \$175 million. This would have been paid to the federal government and remitted to the provinces. If, however, a 10-per cent countervailing duty (CVD) had been applied to all Canadian softwood exports, this would

have cost the entire Canadian lumber industry \$800 million, which would have been paid to the U.S. Treasury.

The main elements of the Agreement are as follows:

U.S. Commitments

Canadian exporters have been granted secure access to the U.S. market for softwood lumber for a period of five years, commencing April 1, 1996.

No U.S. trade action, including anti-dumping, countervail duty actions, Section 201 or Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act, will be initiated by the U.S. government against Canadian exports of softwood lumber for the five-year duration of this softwood lumber agreement.

This commitment would be incorporated both in letters of undertaking from the U.S. industry not to file petitions for trade action, and in a U.S. government commitment to dismiss any such petitions against Canadian lumber.

Canadian Commitments

Volumes of lumber of British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec origin in excess of 14.7 billion board feet will be assessed a fee of US\$50 per thousand board feet for the first 650 million board feet, and US\$100 per thousand board feet for amounts greater than that.

Softwood Lumber Case History

Softwood lumber has been an area of Canada-U.S. trade friction for over 15 years. In 1982, the United States conducted its first countervailing duty (CVD) investigation of softwood lumber from Canada, and concluded that provincial timber harvesting costs called stumpage fees did not confer a countervailable subsidy to Canadian lumber producers. In June 1986, a second CVD investigation was initiated. In December 1986, Canada and the United States signed the Softwood Lumber Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), under which Canada imposed a temporary export tax of 15 per cent on softwood lumber entering the U.S. market from Canada.

In October 1991, Canada terminated the MOU. In response, the United States initiated a CVD investigation and imposed an interim bonding requirement on imports of lumber from Canada, except from the Maritime provinces and Newfoundland. This exemption is based on the fact that of the total Maritime lumber production, 60 per cent is sourced from private land. In 1992, the CVD investigation resulted in a final determination that:

- a) provincial stumpage fees and B.C. log export restrictions provided countervailable subsidies to softwood lumber imports; and
- b) these imports materially injured the U.S. domestic lumber industry.

The Canadian government, the provinces and the lumber industry filed challenges against the final determinations of subsidy and injury before two Canada-U.S. FTA Chapter 19 binational review panels. In 1994, the United States terminated its CVD action after an FTA Extraordinary Challenge Committee affirmed the findings of the FTA Subsidy Panel that the U.S. Department of Commerce should not have found Canadian programs to be countervailable subsidies.

As a result, the United States refunded \$800 million dollars of countervail duties that it had collected from Canadian exporters.

It is by no means certain that Canada could have succeeded in front of another binational review panel to win another challenge to any new U.S. countervail duties on softwood lumber in 1996. These panels are only empowered to rule on whether the U.S. has properly applied its own domestic law on countervail duties. Since the last Chapter 19 panel case, there have been changes both in the market and in U.S. law.

Canada-U.S. Agreement in Principle, February 16, 1996

Given the importance of this trade, both countries agreed to establish a bilateral consultative process to create better understanding, resolve problems and avoid further litigation in this sector. Canadian provinces and industry were fully engaged in the process throughout 1995.

On February 16, 1996, Canada and the United States reached an Agreement in Principle that established, in return for a commitment from the United States not to launch any trade actions for five years, a fee for B.C. lumber exports exceeding nine billion board feet per year. The fee was to be US\$50 per thousand board feet on the first 250 million board feet and US\$100 per thousand board feet for higher quantities. The three other affected provinces undertook to adjust their forestry-management practices through such measures as increased stumpage fees and timber licences, and to engage in consultations should their exports exceed recent levels.

British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and the federal government subsequently concluded that the Agreement in Principle proved unworkable because it called for accurate province-by-province export data which, due to statistical collection difficulties, differing methodologies and lumber trans-shipments,

proved difficult to verify. British Columbia, Quebec, Alberta and the federal government decided with the industry that a uniform, harmonized solution was preferable to province-by-province arrangements, and that it would ensure that Canadian lumber companies share equitably in their access to the U.S. market.

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News Release

April 3, 1996

No. 57

GOVERNMENT TO ACT AGAINST CHILD SEX-TOURISM

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Allan Rock today announced that amendments to Canada's Criminal Code would be introduced to permit the prosecution in Canada of Canadian nationals and permanent residents who engage in prostitution-related activities with children while abroad. The practice is commonly referred to as "child sex-tourism."

"We are acting on the commitment we made in the February Throne Speech that protecting the rights of children is a Canadian priority. The exploitation of children for money and other considerations is among the most disturbing of all abuses involving children. We are convinced that one of the strongest signals we can send internationally about Canada's intolerance of such practices is to make our own citizens and permanent residents accountable for their behaviour in this regard when they travel abroad," said Mr. Axworthy.

Mr. Axworthy made the announcement in Geneva, where he was addressing the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

"The involvement of young people in prostitution, whether in Canada or outside of Canada, is a serious and tragic problem," said Mr. Rock. "This legislation will bring us one step closer to addressing the rights of children by making it possible to prosecute Canadian nationals returning to Canada after having obtained child sexual services for consideration."

The amendments will be included with those of the former Bill C-119, which was dropped from the legislative agenda at the close of the last session of Parliament, and will be reintroduced in Parliament in the coming weeks. The Bill already deals with child prostitution, criminal harassment and female genital mutilation.

Canada will continue to push for an Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child that would include provisions obliging states to adopt legislation to deal with



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child sex-tourism. In making its Criminal Code amendments, Canada will join 11 other countries - Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Belgium, France, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States - which have already enacted similar legislative measures.

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News Release

April 3, 1996

No. 58

AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES CANADIAN SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES IN RWANDA AND FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced contributions to the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights to support projects in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. Mr. Axworthy made his announcement today in Geneva, where he was addressing the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

"The High Commissioner for Human Rights fulfils a central and critical role in the human rights machinery of the United Nations. Canada was instrumental in establishing this position, and we strongly support the efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to strengthen the UN Human Rights system. These contributions will materially enhance the UN's ability to improve the human rights situations in both Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia," said Mr. Axworthy.

The Minister met with High Commissioner Jose Ayala Lasso earlier today.

Canada is contributing \$500 000 to the Centre for Human Rights, which is under the High Commissioner's jurisdiction, to support the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda. The Operation monitors the Rwandan human rights situation and provides training in human rights for police and army personnel. At the Tunis Conference in March, which convened the governments of the central African region, the Government of Rwanda asked the UN Human Rights Centre to increase the number of monitors from 100 to 300. This contribution will assist in meeting that goal.

A further contribution of \$300 000 is being made to help the High Commissioner implement his Program of Action for UN participation in human rights protection, monitoring and training, as called for in the Dayton Peace Accords. The UN will implement training to ensure that international monitors take a consistent approach toward human rights matters. The Program of Action will also provide further support to the Special Rapporteur, which was established by the UN Commission on Human Rights in 1992 to



monitor and provide advice to the UN on the overall human rights situation in the former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Axworthy will visit Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia next week.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget, and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework. This initiative is an example of how this government is prioritizing its spending so that it can better serve Canadians by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

- 30 -

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News Release

April 3, 1996

No. 59

EGGLETON VISITS GREECE TO BOOST TRADE AND INVESTMENT

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today announced that he will travel to Greece April 8-10 to develop Canadian exports and trade to the region. Also on the agenda of Mr. Eggleton's visit will be the recent launching of the transatlantic dialogue between Canada and the European Union (EU), resulting in an Action Plan on all aspects of the Canada-EU relationship.

On April 8, Mr. Eggleton will announce the appointment of Canada's new Honorary Consul in Thessaloniki, Mr. Konstantinos Yakoumis. The following day, the Minister will participate in the inauguration of the Canadian Hellenic Chamber of Commerce.

"Canada places great importance on its bilateral and commercial relations with Greece," Mr. Eggleton said. "We are now about to enter a new era of closer economic and political co-operation with the European Union."

In addition to these events Mr. Eggleton will meet with senior Greek ministers and business representatives to explore ways in which Canada can further develop its economic and commercial relations with the EU.

"The primary role of this visit is to raise the awareness of this region as a site for expanded Canadian trade," said Mr. Eggleton. "A number of Canadian companies are already involved in projects in Greece. Greater commercial success in this region will contribute to economic growth and stimulate job creation in Canada."

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 3, 1996

No. 60

MAUREEN O'NEIL APPOINTED CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointment of Maureen O'Neil as chair of the Board of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (ICHRDD). Ms. O'Neil has served on the board of ICHRDD since August 23, 1995.

Ms. O'Neil is currently Director of the Institute on Governance where she works as an advisor to governments in developing countries on issues of gender equity in policy formulation, human rights and democratic development. She previously served as President of the North South Institute and as Secretary General of the Canadian Human Rights Commission. She has also been Deputy Minister of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, and as Deputy Head of Status of Women Canada in the 1980s led Canadian delegations to the Copenhagen and Nairobi United Nations World Conferences on Women. Ms. O'Neil has several scholarly publications to her credit and has been patron of a scholarship in her name at Carleton University in Ottawa since 1985.

The International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development is an independent Centre established by an Act of Parliament in 1988 which provides persons and organizations in other countries with training, advice and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in democratic process. Ten of the thirteen members of the Centre's Board of Directors are appointed by the Government of Canada. Three nationals of developing countries are appointed by the Board itself.

-30-

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 4, 1996

No. 61

AXWORTHY TO VISIT MOSCOW AND FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will be making his first official visit to Moscow and to the former Yugoslavia April 8-11. Mr. Axworthy will begin his trip in Moscow on April 8, then he will visit Croatia on April 9, Bosnia and Herzegovina on April 9 and 10, and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia/Montenegro) on April 11.

While in Moscow, Mr. Axworthy will meet with Russian Prime Minister Chernomyrdin and with his counterpart, Foreign Minister Primakov, to discuss bilateral and international issues of mutual interest. The visit provides the opportunity to review Canada-Russia priorities, including the expansion of trade and investment. Mr. Axworthy plans to meet with members of the Canadian business community in Russia.

"This visit will help us strengthen our ties with Russia and explore a number of opportunities for co-operation on key international issues," said Mr. Axworthy.

During his one-day visit to Moscow, Mr. Axworthy will sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on nuclear co-operation, which is in keeping with the spirit of the Nuclear Co-operation Agreement signed in 1989. This MOU sets the stage for Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's participation at the Nuclear Summit being held in Moscow April 19-20.

While in the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Axworthy will meet with political leaders and other key figures, as well as non-governmental organizations to discuss issues such as the peace process, reconstruction, human rights, aid to refugees, democratic development and trade opportunities.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Minister will visit the Canadian NATO Peace Implementation Force (IFOR) contingent and a CARE Canada humanitarian aid project. Mr. Axworthy will also meet



with Carl Bildt, the High Representative for civilian peace implementation for Bosnia, to discuss Canada's approach to reconstruction and to express Canada's support for his efforts. Mr. Axworthy will also inaugurate the Canadian Embassy in Sarajevo on April 10.

"The presence of a Canadian Embassy in Sarajevo will help us develop our relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina, and enable us to better co-ordinate our reconstruction efforts," said Mr. Axworthy.

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Mr. Axworthy's itinerary is attached.

Media representatives interested in attending should contact the Canadian Embassy in Zagreb at 011-385-1-457-7885.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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ITINERARY

Moscow, Monday, April 8, 1996

- 09:30 Meeting with Foreign Minister Primakov
- 15:00 Signing of the MOU (photo-op and press scrum)
- 17:30 Press Conference at the Metropol Hotel
- 18:30 Reception for the Canadian business community in Russia
(open to press, TBC)

Zagreb, Tuesday, April 9, 1996

- 08:30 Meeting with Foreign Minister Granic (photo op)
- 09:40 Joint media opportunity

Coralici, Tuesday, April 9, 1996

- 12:00 Meeting Canadian IFOR troops
Visiting site of a mass grave
Visiting CARE Canada humanitarian project
Tour of area

Sarajevo, Wednesday, April 10, 1996

- 12:45 Canadian Embassy inauguration ceremony (open to press)
- 14:30 Meeting with Foreign Minister Prlic
- 15:30 Joint press conference with Foreign Minister Prlic
- 15:45 Meeting with Vice-President Ganic
- 16:30 Meeting with High Representative Carl Bildt

Belgrade, Thursday, April 11, 1996

- 09:00 Meeting with Foreign Minister Milutinovic
- 11:00 Meeting with Serbian President Milosevic
(press scrum TBC)

News Release

April 4, 1996

No. 62

EGGLETON VISITS TURKEY TO PROMOTE CANADIAN EXPORTS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today announced that he will travel to Turkey April 10-11 to assist in the promotion of Canadian export trade.

Mr. Eggleton will meet with several Turkish government ministers and business representatives. The main purpose behind the visit is to support a variety of Canadian private sector bids for contracts in the telecommunications, transportation, mining and energy sectors.

Additionally, the Minister will sign on April 10 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on High Level Economic and Commercial Consultations between both countries.

"Canada looks forward to becoming one of Turkey's major trading partners; the signature of the MOU on economic and commercial consultations demonstrates our mutual interest in increased bilateral trade, investment and joint ventures," Mr. Eggleton said.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 4, 1996

No. 63

QIAO SHI, CHAIRMAN OF CHINA'S NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that Qiao Shi, one of China's most senior leaders, will pay an official visit to Canada from April 11 to 20.

Mr. Qiao is responding to an invitation extended by Speaker of the House of Commons Gilbert Parent and Speaker of the Senate Gildas Molgat.

"Qiao Shi is committed to the development of the rule of law in China, an objective that the Canadian government wholeheartedly supports," said Mr. Axworthy. "The visit is an excellent opportunity for Canada and China to exchange views on a number of fronts and to further the relationship between our respective parliamentarians."

"As Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), Qiao Shi has been instrumental in emphasizing the importance of good governance and reform of the judicial system to China's modernization," said Mr. Chan.

In addition to meetings with Mr. Axworthy, Mr. Chan, the Speakers, Governor General Roméo LeBlanc and Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton, Qiao Shi will attend a working lunch April 15 hosted by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. During his visit to Canada, Mr. Qiao will also visit Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina and Vancouver before returning to China on April 20.

The NPC is the body within the Chinese system that most closely resembles Canada's Parliament. It is responsible for drafting and passing the laws of the land and is playing more of a role in government decision making than it did 10 years ago. Recently, important changes to the handling of criminal cases were



legislated, which, if implemented, could offer increased protection for human rights in China.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 9, 1996

No. 64

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'INFOROUTE EN FRANÇAIS

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for Francophonie, the Honourable Pierre S. Pettigrew, through Pierrette Ringuette-Maltais, Member of Parliament for Madawaska-Victoria, is pleased to announce a contribution of \$400 000 to the Centre International de l'Inforoute en Français (CIDIF), as part of the existing framework for Canada's support of la Francophonie.

"The federal government has committed itself to an active and dynamic role in la Francophonie," said Mr. Pettigrew, "as well as to promoting the linguistic and cultural development of Canada's French-speaking population and its image in the international arena. The federal government's financial contribution to CIDIF is a concrete expression of its commitment to supporting la Francophonie's activities in Canada."

The centre's primary aim is to promote la Francophonie on the information highway and to act as a catalyst in this regard. Located at the Edmundston campus of the University of Moncton, CIDIF will provide French-language resources and information to Francophones and Francophiles throughout the world. The centre's inauguration, which will be attended by Pierrette Ringuette-Maltais, will be held on April 10, 1996.

"I am gratified that this project will enable New Brunswick to provide assistance to the entire Francophone community, both in Canada and throughout the world," said Ms. Ringuette-Maltais.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 9, 1996

ERRATUM

On page 1, paragraph 8 of the backgrounder **CANADA-U.S. SOFTWOOD LUMBER AGREEMENT** attached to News Release No. 56, **AGREEMENT ON SOFTWOOD EXPORTS PRESERVES U.S. MARKET ACCESS FOR FIVE YEARS, EGGLETON SAYS**, issued on April 2, 1996, it is stated that "If applied to 1995 exports, the export fee announced April 2, 1996, would have resulted in a cost to the lumber industry in the four provinces of \$175 million."

In fact, the figure should read \$117.5 million.



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News Release

April 10, 1996

No. 65

AXWORTHY OPENS CANADIAN EMBASSY IN SARAJEVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today officially opened, in Sarajevo, the Canadian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"The signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement opened up new possibilities for partnership with Bosnia and Herzegovina," said Mr. Axworthy. "With our new Embassy, Canada wants to build upon its major contributions to peace and security and reconstruction in the country."

The new Canadian Embassy will have as its immediate priorities support for the peace process, promoting reconstruction and human rights, and assistance to Canadians.

Mr. Axworthy also announced the appointment of Serge Marcoux as Canada's Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mr. Marcoux joined the Department of External Affairs in 1969 and has served abroad in Tunis, Accra, Berlin, Bonn, Abidjan, The Hague and most recently Budapest, where he was responsible for technical assistance, including to Bosnia.

Canada recognized Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 1992 and established diplomatic relations in December 1995 following the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement. Canada also has an Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia, and in Belgrade, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Mr. Axworthy is currently visiting the former Yugoslavia where he is meeting with political leaders and other key figures, as well as with representatives of non-governmental organizations, to discuss issues such as the peace process, reconstruction, human rights, aid to refugees, democratic development (including elections and free media) and trade opportunities.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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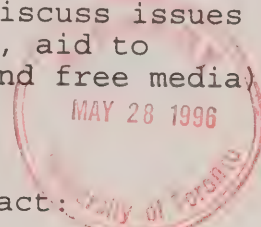
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News Release

April 10, 1996

No. 66

CANADA PREPARED TO CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie, the Honourable Pierre S. Pettigrew, today announced in Sarajevo and Ottawa that Canada plans to continue to support reconstruction in the former Yugoslavia by allocating up to \$25 million in assistance for the balance of 1996 from the funds of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Canadian funding will be available on a regional basis, and its continuation would be contingent on the parties adhering to the spirit and letter of the Dayton Peace Agreement.

"The parties must take concrete measures to build a sense of personal security and confidence in the population by ensuring freedom of movement, independent media, respect for human rights, especially of returning refugees, and co-operation with the International Police Task Force," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada will be represented at the Donor Conference in Brussels on April 12 and 13 by Special Co-ordinator for Reconstruction Michael Berry. He will advise the World Bank and other donors of Canada's intended contribution.

"The Canadian aid includes humanitarian assistance channelled through international organizations and United Nations agencies, as well as support through Canadian organizations for rebuilding health care services and other social rehabilitation programs. Other initiatives include support for the development of democratic institutions and law enforcement," said Mr. Pettigrew.

Mr. Axworthy is currently visiting countries of the former Yugoslavia and meeting with political leaders and other key figures, as well as non-governmental organizations, to discuss the peace process, including reconstruction, human rights, aid to refugees and economic co-operation opportunities.



Funding for this Canadian initiative in the former Yugoslavia was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

This announcement is an example of how this government is prioritizing its spending so that it can better serve Canadians by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

- 30 -

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News Release

April 14, 1996

No. 68

CANADA CONCERNED OVER EVENTS IN LEBANON AND ISRAEL

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his growing concern over the escalation of violence in Lebanon and northern Israel. He also conveyed Canada's sorrow at the loss of life brought about by the recent events. The exchange of fire in recent days, with the ensuing casualties and material destruction, represents a serious deterioration of the situation in the region.

"Canada urges all parties to exercise restraint and reduce tensions through diplomatic channels. The Middle East Peace Process is the best way of resolving regional conflicts. We call on all parties to resume negotiation toward a comprehensive and just peace," stated Mr. Axworthy.

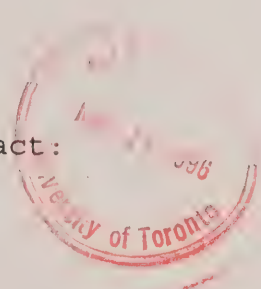
Canada strongly supports the security and well-being of Israel. It also supports the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon, which should be achieved through peace negotiations.

- 30 -

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News Release

April 16, 1996

No. 69

EGGLETON TO VISIT JAPAN AND MEET "QUAD" TRADE MINISTERS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will visit Japan from April 19-24, 1996, and attend the Quadrilateral Trade Ministers' Meeting, or "Quad," being held in Kobe on April 19-21.

At the Quad, the ministers' discussion will focus on preparations for the first Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Singapore in December 1996. Working closely with trading partners in the WTO, Quad members are building support for a successful ministerial conference. The Kobe Quad is an opportunity to exchange views on the state of the preparations and to identify priority areas for further trade liberalization and rule making.

The Quad is an informal forum of ministers responsible for international trade from the European Union, Japan, the United States and Canada. It has met twice yearly since 1982.

"Quad ministers can play a vital part and lead by example in setting the pace for a successful meeting in Singapore," Mr. Eggleton said. "Increased trade and investment are essential to growth and job creation in all countries, both developed and developing. A strong, rules-based trading system is the best guarantee for achieving this."

The Quad meeting will also draw attention to the successful reconstruction efforts in Kobe following the Hanshin earthquake in January 1995. Canada made a significant contribution to rebuilding the city.

On April 22, Mr. Eggleton will visit Sendai, a northern Japanese city which presents growing opportunities for Canadian business outside the traditional Tokyo and Osaka markets. He will help inaugurate the Selport Tsurugaoka Housing Development, a 59-unit Canadian prefabricated housing display, which features homes developed by three Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).



"Canadian exporters, particularly SMEs, have made important inroads into the Japanese housing market. In fact, Canadian prefabricated housing exports have more than doubled in the last year to \$130 million, making Canada Japan's largest supplier," said Mr. Eggleton.

In Tokyo on April 22 and 23, Mr. Eggleton will meet Minister of International Trade and Industry Shunpei Tsukahara and senior representatives of Japanese industry. He will also deliver a keynote address to a Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan luncheon and inaugurate an innovative campaign to promote tourism and Canadian fish product exports.

On April 24, Mr. Eggleton will participate in a round table with Canadian business representatives active in the Asia Pacific region to discuss Canadian trade and investment prospects.

- 30 -

For further information on specific events during the Minister's program in Japan, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 17, 1996

No. 70

APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSOCIATE CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Transport Minister David Anderson today announced the appointment of William A. Dymond as Associate Chief Air Negotiator for Canada.

Mr. Dymond joined the foreign service in 1973. He returned to Canada in 1995 after completing his most recent assignment as Canadian Ambassador to Brazil.

As Associate Chief Air Negotiator, Mr. Dymond will be working closely with the Chief Air Negotiator for Canada, Mr. Duane D. Van Beselaere. The two are responsible for conducting negotiations to provide for air services between Canada and foreign countries. These negotiations are important to Canada's air carriers, airport communities, tourists and business travellers, investors and shippers.

Mr. Dymond will be directly responsible for aviation relations with the countries of Europe, the Middle East and Africa. His immediate priorities will be the current negotiations with Poland and others scheduled to take place with Hungary in May.

- 30 -

A short biographical note on Mr. Dymond is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Brian Bohunicky
Transport Canada
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

William A. Dymond holds a B.A. in economics and an M.A. in political science from the University of Toronto. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1973.

Mr. Dymond has served abroad in Geneva, Brussels, Washington and, most recently, Brasilia. In Ottawa he has held a variety of positions in the international trade policy area.

Mr. Dymond is the author of "Canada-U.S. Trade Options," *Canada-U.S. Law Journal*, 1985; "Free Trade, 1911 and All of That," *bout de papier*, 1987; "Lord Ronald and U.S. Trade Policy," Centre for Trade Policy and Law, 1990; and co-author of *Decision at Midnight*, an account of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Negotiations, University of British Columbia Press, 1994.

Mr. Dymond is married to Patricia Layton and they have two children.

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News Release

April 17, 1996

No. 71

AXWORTHY TO ATTEND FOLLOW-UP TO PEACEMAKERS' SUMMIT IN LUXEMBOURG AND COMMONWEALTH MINISTERIAL ACTION GROUP IN LONDON

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will attend a follow-up meeting to the Summit of the Peacemakers in Luxembourg on April 22. He also announced that he and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will participate in the second meeting of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) on the Harare Declaration of 1991 in London on April 23 and 24.

The Luxembourg meeting will bring together representatives of the parties that attended the Sharm el Sheik Summit in March 1996 to pursue the objectives set out at the Summit.

"Canada is proud to be contributing to this international effort to advance the Middle East peace process," said Mr. Axworthy. "The Luxembourg meeting is an important step in restoring confidence in this process."

Mr. Axworthy will be joined by Secretary of State Stewart at the Commonwealth meeting in London. Mrs. Stewart participated in the first CMAG meeting in December 1995, following its creation through a Canadian diplomatic initiative by Prime Minister Chrétien at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, in November 1995. The first CMAG meeting dealt with serious and persistent violations of the principles contained in the Harare Declaration and focussed on restoring democracy in the military regimes of Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

"I look forward to working closely with my counterparts from the seven other Commonwealth countries that form the CMAG," said Mr. Axworthy. "The Action Group offers a dynamic forum to discuss violations of democracy within the Commonwealth, and particularly in Nigeria where the situation has deteriorated since the execution of human rights activists last November. Clearly, as Canadians, we cannot accept the current violations



taking place in Nigeria without pressing, through the CMAG, for new and stronger measures."

CMAG is a foreign ministers' action group with representatives from Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Jamaica, Malaysia, Ghana, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The Group's purpose is to recommend collective Commonwealth responses to flagrant or persistent violations of the principles contained in the Harare Declaration.

"The Commonwealth has been effective in helping to begin the process of restoring democracy in Sierra Leone and the Gambia," said Secretary of State Stewart. "I am confident the Commonwealth can help achieve similar results in Nigeria."

Mr. Axworthy also plans to hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts while in London.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

Communication
Publication

April 18, 1996

No. 72

LLOYD AXWORTHY APPOINTS ADVISOR ON CONSULAR MATTERS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointment of Professor Edward Ratushny as Advisor on Consular Affairs. In making the announcement, the Minister emphasized his commitment to ensuring that Canadians continue to receive the highest quality of consular service when they travel and live abroad.

"Consular cases are increasingly complex, given the intricacies of international law and differing legal systems in countries around the world. Mr. Ratushny is a recognized legal expert who can explore all aspects of consular issues and provide advice on government action," said Mr. Axworthy. "I view the Advisor's role as supplementing the excellent services already provided by the Department's consular personnel in Ottawa and abroad."

Mr. Ratushny will report directly to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He will review current multilateral and bilateral legal instruments that assist Canadians in difficulty. At the Minister's request, he will also provide advice and guidance on individual cases that require exceptional attention and detailed research.

Mr. Ratushny is one of Canada's most respected experts on criminal and constitutional law and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. He has been a professor of law at the University of Ottawa since 1975 and has written extensively on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and on Canadian criminal law.

- 30 -

A biographical note and backgrounder are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edward Joseph Ratushny — B.A., 1964, LL.B. (Bachelor of Law), 1965, University of Saskatchewan; LL.M. (Master of Laws), 1968, London School of Economics (England); LL.M. (Master of Laws), 1972, S.J.D. (Doctor of Juridical Sciences), 1979, University of Michigan.

A professor since 1970 at Windsor and Ottawa Law Schools, Mr. Ratushny is an expert in Constitutional and Administrative Law, Criminal Procedure and Evidence, and Human Rights and Civil Liberties. He has worked as Special Advisor and consultant to numerous federal ministers and to government departments and agencies. These include Justice, Transport, Solicitor-General, federal and provincial Law Reform Commissions, Canada Broadcasting Corporation, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Mr. Ratushny has served as a member on or counsel to several governmental boards, commissions and task forces in the areas of Human Rights, Environmental Law, and Immigration Law. He was appointed Queen's Counsel by the Government of Canada in 1985.

Mr. Ratushny and his wife, Lynn, reside in Ottawa and have three children.

BACKGROUNDER

Millions of Canadians travel abroad each year — for pleasure, business and family reasons. For the most part, they do so without trouble or incident. Nevertheless, a significant number encounter serious and often tragic difficulties in other countries. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade provides detailed consular information and advice to Canadians upon the issuance of a passport.

The misfortunes faced by Canadians when abroad often mirror those encountered at home — but in a foreign environment, with language and social differences, the problems are magnified. Situations can range from the routine to the complex, such as international child abductions, long-term imprisonment and even death sentences. Other consular incidents include lost passports, accidents, assaults, murders, death by natural causes or by suicide, natural and civil disasters, and financial and medical problems.

Canadians in difficulty are helped through a world-wide network of 250 offices, primarily found in Canadian embassies and consulates abroad. Consular services are also provided to Canadians through 85 honorary consulates and through co-operative agreements with the governments of Australia, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Approximately 600 persons are involved in providing consular assistance in these various offices.

The international Canadian consular network is co-ordinated from the Ottawa headquarters of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, through a sophisticated communications system that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Canadians anywhere in the world can get round-the-clock assistance by calling one of the overseas offices or by calling direct to the co-ordinating office in Ottawa. Relatives and friends in Canada can request assistance for persons in difficulty overseas by calling 1-800-267-6788.

Canadians abroad are subject to the laws, procedures and institutions of the countries they are in. Given the intricacies of each country's system, many problems involve complex legal issues. The Advisor on Consular Affairs, Mr. Edward Ratushny, will review current multilateral and bilateral legal instruments that assist Canadians in difficulty. At the request of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, he will also provide advice and guidance on individual cases that require exceptional attention and detailed research.

As one of Canada's most respected experts on criminal and constitutional law, Professor Ratushny is particularly suited to give advice on major consular difficulties and to help identify options to assist Canadians. His advice and guidance will be particularly important on non-routine cases that involve the arrest and detention of Canadians, international child abductions and deaths in questionable circumstances.

News Release

April 18, 1996

No. 73

AXWORTHY WELCOMES PROPOSAL TO PROMOTE PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy welcomes a joint proposal by South Korea and the United States to hold four-party talks among South and North Korea, China and the United States to promote peace on the Korean Peninsula.

"Canada fully supports the proposal made this week by President Clinton and President Kim," said Mr. Axworthy. "The meeting would be an excellent way to prepare the ground for a permanent peace agreement."

Canada has a strong interest in the promotion of peace and stability in region. In addition to sending Canadian soldiers to fight in the Korean war, Canada supported the Armistice Agreement, which terminated hostilities in 1953. Canada also initiated the North Pacific Co-operative Security Dialogue several years ago. It is a member of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization and has shared its expertise in arms control, peacekeeping and confidence-building measures with South Korea.

"We applaud this initiative and would be more than willing to discuss ways in which our experience in all these areas could help facilitate the peace process," said Mr. Axworthy.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 18, 1996

No. 74

JOHN FRASER GIVEN SPECIAL DUTIES ON PACIFIC SALMON DISPUTE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced in co-operation with Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Fred Mifflin that John Fraser, Ambassador for the Environment and Sustainable Development, will assume special responsibilities to advance Canada's interest in resolving the Pacific salmon dispute. He will meet with Canadian and U.S. stakeholders and decision makers and advise ministers on possible avenues to resolve the impasse.

Mr. Fraser's new responsibilities will build on Canadian government efforts including consultations with B.C. stakeholders. Last month, the Fisheries and Foreign Affairs Ministers sent their Parliamentary Secretaries, Ted McWhinney and Francis Leblanc, to consult with interested parties in British Columbia in advance of Mr. Axworthy's trip to Washington. The Government of Canada has stayed in close contact with the Government of British Columbia on this issue.

When Mr. Axworthy met with Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt and National Security Advisor Tony Lake in Washington March 27 and 28, he stressed the importance of resolving the dispute over the Pacific Salmon Treaty, and he proposed binding arbitration to the U.S. on the equity principle of the Treaty. The equity principle outlines how salmon stocks, which migrate through the waters of both countries, should be shared. We need full implementation of the Treaty to ensure long-term conservation of the resource.

"Settling this dispute with the United States is a Canadian government priority," said Mr. Axworthy. "We must continue to try new ways to work together to manage and conserve this important natural resource. Mr. Fraser will strongly represent Canadian interests and assist our search for a solution to this problem."

Mr. Fraser, a former Canadian Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and past Chair of the Fraser Sockeye Public Review Board, has



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been effective in dealing with complex and sensitive environmental and fisheries issues. As former Speaker of the House of Commons, he brings to his new responsibilities a reputation for sound judgment, which will help him to advance the Pacific salmon issue.

"We must resolve this dispute now to preserve the long-term well-being of the salmon resource and to ensure that Canadian fisheries sectors and coastal communities thrive and prosper," said Mr. Mifflin. "The appointment of Ambassador Fraser is further evidence of the Government's commitment to achieve effective implementation of the Treaty."

Canada initiated major conservation measures in recent years, including a fifty percent cut in the chinook salmon harvest in 1995. Last month, Canada announced that at current forecast levels of abundance there will be no commercial fisheries for Fraser River sockeye in 1996. Unless the U.S. also agrees to a substantial reduction of its 1996 harvest, the survival of chinook stocks off the west coast of Vancouver Island is seriously threatened.

Mr. Fraser's appointment will be an important part of Canada's advocacy and public awareness campaign in response to the recommendations of the B.C. stakeholders.

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Bonnie Mewdell
Office of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
(613) 992-3474

Bill Morrell
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
(604) 666-0646

News Release

April 22, 1996

No. 75

EGGLETON OPENS CANADIAN PLACE IN SENDAI

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today officially opened Canadian Place, a new housing development of 59 Canadian homes, in the city of Sendai in northern Japan.

Developed by Selco Homes of Sendai, Canadian Place features homes supplied by three Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): Nu-Fab of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Royal Homes of Wingham, Ontario, and Newton Homes, of Newton, Manitoba.

"Canadian Place is a testament to the success of Canadian SMEs in the Japanese market," said Mr. Eggleton. "It is a celebration of the fact that Canada is now the largest supplier of pre-fabricated housing to Japan and it is a real Team Canada achievement."

Mr. Eggleton attributed the significant growth of the North American style wood-frame construction in Japan to deregulation efforts by the Japanese government and to the changing tastes and needs of Japanese consumers.

North American style wood-frame construction is rapidly gaining popularity in Japan because of its durability, speed and ease of construction, resistance to earthquakes, high insulation features and western-style design.

Selco Homes is one of the world's premier importers of Canadian manufactured homes. These homes incorporate finished building products manufactured by Canadian companies such as Loewen Windows of Steinbach, Manitoba, Gentech of Dalton, Quebec, and Madawaska Doors of Bolton, Ontario. In 1995, Selco Homes imported an estimated 400 homes from five Canadian exporters: Royal Homes, Nu-Fab, Newton Homes, Viceroy of Scarborough, Ontario, and MMH Prestige of Sussex, New Brunswick. The developer plans to purchase and sell over 600 homes from these five suppliers this year.

The homes are manufactured in Canada and shipped in package form together with a number of high value-added housing components such as windows, doors, kitchen cabinets, staircases and



flooring. Significant labour cost savings are achieved because the homes are partly assembled before being shipped to Japan.

Canadian exports of manufactured homes to Japan grew from \$54 million in 1994 to over \$130 million in 1995. These exports are expected to double again in 1996. According to the Japanese Customs Office, Canada surpassed the United States in 1995 to become the world's largest exporter of pre-fabricated buildings to Japan.

Over 120 small and medium-sized Canadian companies are active in the Japanese housing market.

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News Release

April 22, 1996

No. 76

28th QUADRILATERAL TRADE MINISTERS' MEETING APRIL 19-21, 1996

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Shunpei Tsukahara, Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry, issued the following statement as Chairman of the 28th Quadrilateral Trade Ministers' meeting in Kobe, Japan on April 21, 1996. Also attending the meeting were Art Eggleton, Canada's Minister for International Trade, Charlene Barshefsky, Acting U.S. Trade Representative, and Sir Leon Brittan, Vice President of the European Commission.

STATEMENT BY SHUNPEI TSUKAHARA

Ministers from Canada, the European Union, Japan and the United States held the 28th Quadrilateral Meeting in Kobe to review recent developments in international trade and to continue planning and preparation for the Singapore Ministerial Conference of the WTO [World Trade Organization].

We emphasized the need for full implementation of the WTO Agreements by all members, to reinforce the credibility of the WTO. We agreed to keep under review the situation regarding implementation, bearing in mind recent measures in violation of WTO obligations, such as TRIMs [Trade-related Investment Measures]. We look forward to the report of the General Council on implementation.

We affirmed our strong commitment to the work of the Committee on Trade and Environment on all items on its agenda. We reviewed its agenda with particular focus on eco-labelling and the relation between multilateral environmental agreements [MEAs] and WTO provisions. We recognized that these topics might be more ripe for specific recommendations to be endorsed by ministers. We also decided to support the establishment of this Committee on a permanent basis.

We, the Quad, strongly support the negotiation of an Information Technology Agreement [ITA], which is an initiative for trade



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liberalization in the information technology industry, and reaffirmed our efforts toward its realization on the basis of mutual benefit.

We also instructed officials to explore the possibility of acceleration of tariff reduction commitments under the Uruguay Round results, to explore the possibility of further tariff reductions, and to report back to us at the earliest opportunity with a view to maintaining momentum for further liberalization.

As a further contribution to liberalization, we agreed on the desirability of completing the work program on accountancy by the time of the Singapore Ministerial Conference, of expanding the work program in 1997, and of the development of generic rules that could be applied to several professions.

Ministers responsible for the WTO basic telecommunications negotiations reviewed the current status of negotiations and reaffirmed their commitment to a successful conclusion by April 30. They decided to redouble their efforts to complete the negotiations by presenting their best MFN-based offers, and strongly urged the other WTO members to follow suit. They concluded that other participants must significantly improve their offers. They reaffirmed the need to make additional commitments on regulatory principles by referring to the reference paper, which would substantiate market access commitments. Ministers reviewed the outstanding issues in the talks, particularly the possible risk that monopolies could distort competition in international services.

We reaffirmed the importance of concluding the maritime transport negotiations by June 30, and discussed the need for contributions from all participants in order to conclude the negotiations successfully.

Noting the built-in agenda under the various WTO Agreements, we welcomed the offer by Canada to prepare a discussion paper on ways and means by which the successful completion of future work and negotiations contemplated under these agreements might be facilitated.

We reaffirmed our urgent commitment to successfully concluding negotiations on a Multilateral Agreement on Investment under OECD [Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development] auspices in the spring of 1997. We recognize that informal discussions on investment have already begun in Geneva. Without in any way detracting from our determination to reach the OECD agreement, we agreed that an informal WTO Working Group should now be set up in Geneva with a view to establishing a formal WTO Working Group at the Singapore Ministerial Conference.

Recognizing that core labour standards are matters of human rights and that their development is the responsibility of the International Labour Organization, we agreed that the relation between trade and labour standards should be discussed at the Singapore Ministerial Conference, with a view to determining how to proceed.

We agreed on the importance of enhancing the coherence between trade and competition policy, and agreed that this issue should be discussed at the Singapore Ministerial Conference with a view to determining how to proceed.

We took note of the important advances in the OECD to combat bribery and corruption in international trade.

We agreed to renew our efforts to expand membership in the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement [GPA], and to improve its disciplines through reducing barriers to government procurement. As a first step, we agreed to initiate work on an interim arrangement on transparency, openness and due process in government procurement, which would help reduce corruption as an impediment to trade.

We emphasized the importance of transparency to enhancing the credibility of the WTO, and agreed to urge other WTO members to agree on procedures for de-restriction of panel reports and other WTO documents.

We affirmed our view that we intend to work to expand WTO membership as rapidly as possible, on the basis of respect for WTO rules and the achievement of meaningful market access. In this connection, we believe that effective enforcement of intellectual property rights protection is necessary for confidence building among the members needed for accession.

With regard to regional trade initiatives, the last Quad Meeting suggested the establishment of the new WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements, and we welcome its establishment. We believe that regional trade initiatives must be consistent with and complementary to the multilateral trading system. With a view to building confidence in the relation between regional initiatives and the WTO, we exchanged information on our respective regional initiatives in the interests of transparency.

On regulatory reform, we agreed that ongoing work at the OECD should be supported, and agreed to explore a plurilateral Mutual Recognition Agreement [MRA] for telecommunications equipment to remove regulatory barriers to trade.

We also underlined the need to deal with trade and development, having in mind the commitments taken at Marrakesh.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

April 24, 1996

No. 77

LLOYD AXWORTHY REAPPOINTS IDRC PRESIDENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the reappointment of Dr. Keith A. Bezanson as President of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Mr. Bezanson became president of IDRC in April 1991.

"I am pleased to reappoint Dr. Bezanson, who has provided strong leadership to IDRC over the last five years. The Government and people of Canada can be proud of the superb contribution that the IDRC has made to improving the welfare of many people around the world. In an era of continuing fiscal restraint, IDRC is uniquely placed to help maximize the use of new technologies to enhance and support international development", said Mr. Axworthy.

Born in Kingston, Ontario, Dr. Bezanson has devoted his entire career to international development. A graduate of Carleton University, Ottawa, and of Stanford University, California, he joined the Canadian International Development Agency in 1973, where he was successively Director of the East African Program, Director General in charge of Canada's participation in multilateral development banks, and Vice-President of the Americas Branch. In 1985, Dr. Bezanson became Canada's Ambassador to Peru and Bolivia, and in 1988, Manager of the Administrative Department of the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington.

IDRC is a Crown corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970. It assists developing countries in finding their own solutions to development problems through research. IDRC gives support directly to Third World institutions whose research focusses primarily on meeting the basic needs of people in overcoming the problems of poverty.

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News Release

April 24, 1996

No. 78

CANADA WELCOMES DECISION TO AMEND THE PALESTINIAN CHARTER

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the decision of the Palestine National Council to revoke clauses of the Palestinian Charter calling for the destruction of Israel. An overwhelming majority of Council members voted today in favour of this amendment to the 32-year-old Palestinian Charter.

"We welcome the outcome of this historic vote, which demonstrates the commitment of the Palestinian leadership to the Middle East peace process," said Mr. Axworthy.

The vote today in Gaza by the Palestine National Council sets the stage for the upcoming negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority toward a permanent agreement.

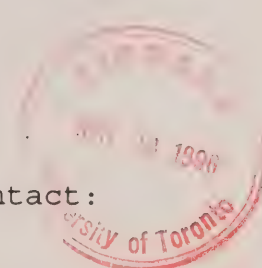
"Canada strongly supports the forthcoming negotiations, which will be an integral part of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region," added Mr. Axworthy.

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News Release

April 25, 1996

No. 79

CANADA SUPPORTS PARAGUAYAN PRESIDENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, upon his return to Canada, declared Canada's support for Paraguay's President Carlos Wasmosy and his democratically elected government in this time of ongoing governmental crisis in that country.

Referring to the continuing tensions that arose after President Wasmosy's dismissal of Paraguayan Army Commander General Lino César Oviedo, Mr. Axworthy urged a rapid and peaceful resolution to the crisis.

"In recent years, Paraguay has joined the family of democratic countries in the hemisphere. Canada welcomed Paraguay's espousal of democracy, and hopes to be able to continue to work closely with the government of President Wasmosy," said the Minister.

Mr. Axworthy also welcomed the efforts of the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, César Gaviria, and the Foreign Ministers of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, who travelled to Asunción this week to extend support to President Wasmosy. He added that "Canada will continue to work together with other member countries of the Organization of American States in ensuring the durability of Paraguay's democracy."

- 30 -

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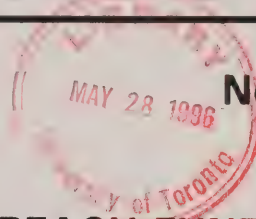
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News Release

April 26, 1996

No. 80



LLOYD AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES OUTREACH FUND HONOURING JOHN HOLMES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today named the recently created Foreign Policy Public Outreach Fund in honour of the late John Holmes, former Canadian diplomat, academic, policy activist and long-time head of the Canadian Institute for International Affairs.

"Throughout his distinguished career, John Holmes always encouraged Canadians to be actively involved in international affairs," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is therefore appropriate to honour his memory in a fashion that will foster and sustain public participation in foreign policy making."

The Fund has been created in response to the Red Book commitment to strengthen non-governmental participation in foreign policy making, which was also reflected in the Government's Foreign Policy Statement, "Canada in the World," published in February 1995.

The \$1-million annual fund is available for policy-relevant research, public consultations and outreach activities such as the annual National Forum on Canada's International Relations. It has already been used for public consultations on Bosnia, Central Africa, Central Europe, South Asia, child labour, military spending and human rights, and for a study of the use of the Internet for foreign policy needs. Consultations included youth, experts, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), researchers, journalists, Members of Parliament, and business and labour representatives.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework. This initiative is an example of how this government



is prioritizing its spending so that it can serve Canadians better by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

- 30 -

Information about the Fund, eligibility requirements and project criteria can be obtained from:

Director General, Policy Branch
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2
Tel: (613) 992-3690
Fax: (613) 944-0687

A biographical note is attached.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Wendell Holmes was born in London, Ontario, in 1910. A graduate of the University of Toronto and the University of Western Ontario, he developed an early interest in foreign policy. He began his career in 1940, holding various positions at the Canadian Institute of International Affairs in Toronto before joining the Department of External Affairs as an assistant in 1943.

He rose rapidly through the ranks of the foreign service, with postings in London and Moscow. He became Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in 1953, and remained in that position until his retirement from the Department in 1960. During his diplomatic career, he was a key adviser on Canadian delegations to international meetings and conferences, particularly those associated with the United Nations.

From 1960 to 1973, John Holmes was with the Canadian Institute of International Affairs (CIIA), first as President and then as Director General. After relinquishing the latter position, he retained his association with the CIIA as its Counsellor. During this time he taught international relations at Glendon College of York University, at the University of Toronto, and as a visiting professor at Leeds University in England.

He authored or edited numerous books, including his two-volume study of Canada's wartime plans and postwar policies, *The Shaping of Peace: Canada and the Search for World Order, 1943-1957* (1979 and 1982). He also commented frequently on Canada's international relations in newspapers, on radio and on television in Canada and abroad.

John Holmes was a member of the Order of Canada, a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the recipient of 10 honorary doctorates. Upon his death in 1988, former foreign service officer and friend John Halstead said of him: "Humility was his hallmark, tolerance was his touchstone and moderation was his motto."

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News Release

April 26, 1996

No. 81

CANADA WELCOMES CEASEFIRE IN MIDDLE EAST

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the announcement of a ceasefire to end fighting in northern Israel and southern Lebanon. The ceasefire consists of a set of understandings aimed at preventing further attacks on civilians.

"The decision to agree to a ceasefire is welcome news, and we applaud the diplomatic efforts of the United States, France and others, who worked tirelessly to end the hostilities," said Mr. Axworthy. "Efforts must now be reinforced to reach a just and durable peace throughout the Middle East."

Mr. Axworthy also stated that peace must include the full restoration of Lebanese sovereignty, including the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425. "In this context, Canada welcomes the importance U.S. Secretary Warren Christopher attached to the resumption of Syria-Israel and Lebanon-Israel peace negotiations," said Mr. Axworthy.

"Canada will continue to provide active support to the Middle East Peace Process through participation in the multilateral track, and through our assistance program to the region," the Minister added.

The ceasefire ends hostilities that lasted 16 days and caused approximately 150 civilian casualties.

- 30 -

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News Release

April 29, 1996

No. 82

GOVERNOR PATTEN OF HONG KONG TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that Christopher Patten, Governor of Hong Kong, will visit Canada from April 30 to May 3.

"I look forward to meeting Mr. Patten and discussing the many interests that Canada and Hong Kong have in common. Canada and Hong Kong have a very close relationship, and Hong Kong's future is a major concern to us," said Mr. Axworthy.

"Hong Kong is an increasingly important trading partner for Canada and a vital source of investment. It is also the single most important source of immigration for Canada," said Mr. Chan.

Mr. Patten is responding to an invitation extended by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien during his 1994 Team Canada visit.

While in Canada, Mr. Patten will visit Vancouver, Toronto and Ottawa. In addition to meetings with Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Chan, he will also hold talks with the Prime Minister, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard.

- 30 -

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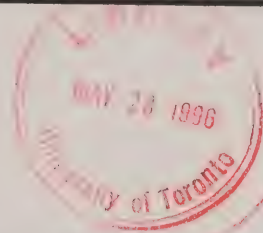


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News Release

April 29, 1996

No. 83



CANADA DEPLORES BUS BOMBING IN PAKISTAN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today deplored the April 28 bombing of a bus south of Lahore, Pakistan, in which more than 50 people were killed. Responsibility for this attack has not been claimed.

"Canada extends its sincere condolences to the families of the victims of this most tragic and senseless event," said Mr. Axworthy.

This attack followed other recent bombings in the province of Punjab, but Sunday's blast was one of the most violent in the history of Pakistan. "Canada continues to be concerned over the increase in violence in this region and hopes for an early end to this trend," added Mr. Axworthy.

- 30 -

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News Release

April 29, 1996

No. 84

CANADA DEPLORES TERRORIST ATTACK IN INDIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today deplored the April 28 bus bombing in New Delhi, India, which claimed the lives of 13 people.

"The death of these innocent civilians at the hands of terrorists is tragic and senseless. Canada extends its sincere condolences to the families of the victims," said Mr. Axworthy.

This bus bombing follows an explosion on April 20 at a boarding house in New Delhi, which took the lives of 17 people. A Kashmiri militant group has claimed responsibility for both terrorist attacks. "The use of violence to achieve political ends can never be condoned," concluded Mr. Axworthy.

- 30 -

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News Release

May 1, 1996

No. 85

CHAN TO VISIT CHINA AND HONG KONG AND LEAD TRADE MISSION FOCUSSING ON EMERGING REGIONAL MARKETS IN CHINA



The Honourable Raymond Chan, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific), will visit China and Hong Kong between May 4 and 21 to discuss a wide range of political, trade, economic and sustainable development aspects of their relations with Canada. Accompanied by representatives of 39 Canadian companies, Mr. Chan will also promote Canadian involvement in projects in the Chinese cities of Beijing, Dalian, Jinan, Shanghai, Fuzhou and Shenzhen.

This is the first federal trade mission to include Dalian, Jinan, Fuzhou and Shenzhen, cities located within some of the fastest-growing regional markets in China. Characterized by growth rates that exceed the national average, growing consumer classes and immense infrastructure requirements, these markets present exciting opportunities for Canadian business.

"Thanks in part to the highly successful Team Canada mission in November 1994, Canadian businesses have made important gains in the China market. Exports to China jumped by nearly 50 per cent to a record \$3.4 billion in 1995," said Mr. Chan.

"To sustain this momentum, we must target more specifically some of the fast-growing regional markets in China. This mission will do just that. It is an exciting opportunity to promote Canadian expertise and cultivate partnerships among the business and government leaders who are guiding development in these markets."

During his visit to China, May 4-18, Mr. Chan will meet with senior Chinese central and regional government officials, including the Foreign Minister, the Mayor of Dalian, the Governor of Shandong, the Vice-Mayor of Shanghai as well as representatives of provincial trade and economic planning commissions. He will also address a luncheon hosted by the Canada China Business Council's Beijing Chapter and the Canadian Business Forum being held in Shanghai.



While in Hong Kong, May 18-21, Mr. Chan will meet with key government officials, including Chief Secretary Anson Chan, to emphasize Canadian support for a smooth transition of power in 1997 and to exchange views on a number of issues related to the transition. He will also participate in a round table with members of Hong Kong's Legislative Council.

The growing number of high-level visits between Canada and China since the Team Canada mission demonstrates the increasing importance the two countries place on enhancing co-operation on all levels.

- 30 -

A list of the Canadian companies accompanying Mr. Chan to China is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 995-1874

**VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE RAYMOND CHAN,
SECRETARY OF STATE (ASIA-PACIFIC) TO CHINA
MAY 4-18, 1996**

BUSINESS DELEGATION

AGRA CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.
Beijing, China

AGRA INDUSTRIES LTD.
Mississauga, Ontario

ATOMIC ENERGY CORPORATION INC.
Ottawa, Ontario

BABCOCK & WILCOX
Cambridge, Ontario

BELL CANADA INTERNATIONAL INC.
Montreal, Quebec

BING THOM ARCHITECTS
Vancouver, British Columbia

BOMBARDIER INC.
Montreal, Quebec

BROWNSTEIN, BROWNSTEIN &
ASSOCIATES
Montreal, Quebec

CANADIAN AIRLINES
Calgary, Alberta

CANPOTEX LIMITED
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

COMSTREAM/SPAR AEROSPACE
Baie-d'Urfé, Quebec

DAVEY INTERNATIONAL INC.
Stoney Creek, Ontario

DESJARDINS DUCHARME STEIN
MONAST
Montreal, Quebec

DYNAMIC ENTERPRISES CORP.
Vancouver, British Columbia

EDWARD Y. W. CHEUNG
(BARRISTER SOLICITOR AND
NOTARY PUBLIC)
Ottawa, Ontario

FOUNTAIN ENTERPRISES (CANADA)
INC.
Vancouver, British Columbia

FOUR SEASONS - REGENT HOTELS &
RESORTS
Toronto, Ontario

GEC ALSTHOM ELECTROMECHANICAL
Brossard, Quebec

GLOBAL CHINA INVESTMENTS LTD.
Toronto, Ontario

HYDRO-QUÉBEC
Montreal, Quebec

LE GROUPE S.M. INC.
Montreal, Quebec

LES CONSULTANTS LBCE INC.
Valleyfield, Quebec

LONDON LIFE INTERNATIONAL
London, Ontario

M3I SYSTEMS INC.
Longueuil, Quebec

MONENCO AGRA INDUSTRIES LTD.
Oakville, Ontario

NATIONAL BANK OF CANADA
Montreal, Quebec

NORTECH FIBRONIC INC.
St-Jean Baptiste, Quebec

NORTHERN TELECOM
(INTERNATIONAL) LTD
Ottawa, Ontario

NOVA GAS INTERNATIONAL LTD
Calgary, Alberta

PACASIA INTERNATIONAL INC.
Vancouver, British Columbia

POWER PACIFIC CORPORATION
LIMITED
Montreal, Quebec

PRINCETON DEVELOPMENTS LTD.
Edmonton, Alberta

RICHWAY ENVIRONMENTAL
PRESERVATION CO. LTD.
Richmond, British Columbia

RSW INTERNATIONAL INC.
Montreal, Quebec

SEMI-TECH ELECTRONICS LIMITED
Toronto, Ontario

SNC-LAVALIN INTERNATIONAL INC.
Montreal, Quebec

TECHNOPHAR EQUIPMENT & SERVICE
LIMITED
Oldcastle, Ontario

TOM IP AND ASSOCIATES
DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS
(INTERNATIONAL) INC.
Vancouver, British Columbia

VISION PACKAGING LTD.
Vancouver, British Columbia

News Release

May 3, 1996

No. 86

NORTHERN IRISH PEACE FOCUS OF BUSINESS SEMINARS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today announced that seminars on "The Canadian Partnership: Trade and Investment Opportunities in Northern Ireland and the Irish Border Counties" will be held in Montreal on May 7 and in Toronto on May 8.

The seminars are organized by The Canadian Partnership, a private-sector-led steering group convened by the Minister for International Trade last October, designed to support the Northern Ireland peace process by encouraging trade and investment relations between Canada and Northern Ireland and the Irish Border Counties.

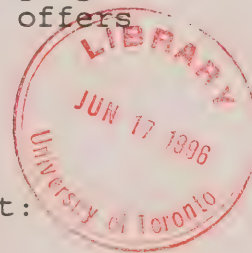
Minister Eggleton will be joined at the Toronto seminar by Baroness Denton, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office, and Mervyn Taylor, Irish Minister for Equality and Law Reform. Robert Brown, President and Chief Operating Officer of Bombardier's Aerospace Group and Danny McCaughan, Chief Scientist of Nortel Ireland, will be present at both seminars to discuss their companies' involvement in Northern Ireland and the Border Counties of Ireland. Former Minister for International Trade, Mr. Roy MacLaren, will represent the Government of Canada at the Montreal seminar on May 7.

"The link between peace and economic stability must be fostered, and Canada - through The Canadian Partnership - is encouraging this process," Mr. Eggleton said. "Moreover, this region offers good business opportunities for Canadian exporters."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

May 7, 1996

No. 87

GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today that his German counterpart, Mr. Klaus Kinkel, will visit Ottawa on May 7 and 8.

"In the course of this visit, I will be talking with Mr. Kinkel about bilateral issues and other subjects of common interest, such as European security, the situation in the former Yugoslavia and UN reform," said Mr. Axworthy, who will host a working dinner this evening for Mr. Kinkel.

This will be the first meeting between the two ministers, who will also discuss the intensification of trans-Atlantic relations, a subject of particular interest to Mr. Kinkel. A Canada-Germany partnership, formed last fall, provided the initial impetus for present discussions aimed at formulating a Canada-EU policy statement and an action plan to strengthen political and economic ties between Canada and the EU.

Tomorrow morning, the German Foreign Minister will meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. At 9:30 a.m., immediately after this meeting, Mr. Kinkel and Mr. Axworthy will be available to the media outside room 311-S, Centre Block.

- 30 -

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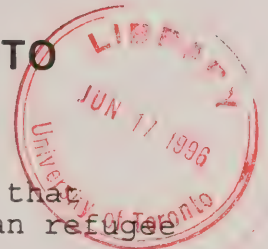
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News Release

May 10, 1996

No. 88

CANADA TO LEAD INTERNATIONAL MISSION TO REFUGEE CAMPS IN JORDAN



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada is to lead an international mission to Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan, May 12-14.

Canada is heading the mission as "Gavel," or Chair, of the Refugee Working Group (RWG), one of five working groups established within the multilateral track of the Middle East Peace Process. Other members of the mission include the European Union, Japan, Morocco, Switzerland and the United States. Together with Canada, they represent some of the 41 countries and delegations participating in the work of the RWG.

"This international mission to Palestinian refugee camps is evidence of Canada's commitment to, and leadership in, the multilateral track of the Middle East Peace Process," said Mr. Axworthy. "It takes on particular importance with the launch of permanent status talks between Israel and the PLO, in Taba, Egypt."

The mission will seek to identify the needs of Palestinian communities in Jordan by meeting with residents of the refugee camps and with the Government of Jordan. Discussions will also explore how the RWG can contribute to the success of the Middle East Peace Process.

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News Release

May 10, 1996

No. 89

EGGLETON CHAMPIONS TRADE WITH SAUDI ARABIA

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will meet on May 15 with the Deputy Minister for Economic and Cultural Affairs of Saudi Arabia, His Excellency Mohamed Ma'Moun Kurdi, to discuss improving Canadian-Saudi trade.

"Saudi Arabia is Canada's largest trading partner in the Middle East," Mr. Eggleton said. "The benefits of the Canada-Saudi Arabia trading relationship are apparent across our two economies in increased jobs, export opportunities and business activity."

This meeting coincides with the Canada-Saudi Arabia Joint Economic Commission (JEC), which is holding its eighth plenary meeting in Ottawa on May 14 and 15.

The Saudi delegation is composed of 50 Saudi representatives from the private and public sectors. Forty Canadian business representatives will also participate in the JEC.

"The JEC is the main body linking the private and public sectors in Canada and Saudi Arabia. I strongly support its activities," said Mr. Eggleton.

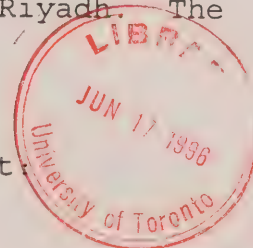
Canada and Saudi Arabia established the JEC in 1976. The Commission seeks to encourage and facilitate economic and technical co-operation between the two countries in mutually agreed sectors. The Commission encourages Canadian companies to seek out Saudi partners in responding to business opportunities in Saudi Arabia. It also serves to promote greater awareness of Canadian technology, goods and services in Saudi Arabia. Canada and Saudi Arabia have a balanced trading relationship with over \$1 billion in two-way trade.

The JEC meets biennially, alternating between Ottawa and Riyadh. The JEC last met in Ottawa in October 1991.

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News Release

May 14, 1996

No. 90

AXWORTHY TO VISIT HAITI AND LATIN AMERICA

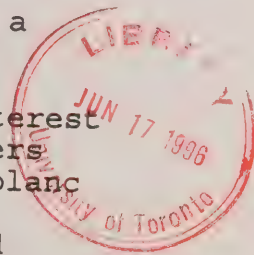
Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew will travel to Haiti on May 20 to hold discussions on a range of issues, including the future of the UN peacekeeping mission. Mr. Axworthy will continue on to Latin America – his first visit to the region since becoming Minister – to discuss issues of mutual concern with Brazil, Argentina and Guatemala.

While in Haiti, the ministers will meet with Haitian President Préval, Foreign Minister Longchamp and Enrique ter Horst, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, to discuss peacekeeping and policing initiatives and to follow up on President Préval's recent visit to Canada. "Canada is extremely pleased with the success of the UN mission to date," said Mr. Axworthy, "and as a close friend and neighbour, we have a very strong interest in the ongoing stability of Haiti."

Bilateral meetings will also focus on Canada's long-term interest in the re-establishment of democracy in Haiti. Both ministers will be joined by Canadian members of Parliament Francis Leblanc (Parliamentary Secretary to Mr. Axworthy), Peter Milliken (Liberal), Mauril Bélanger (Liberal), Bob Mills (Reform) and Stéphane Bergeron (Bloc québécois), in meeting with Haitian parliamentarians. "We maintain a very strong interest in the peacekeeping mission, and a firm commitment to Haiti's long-term development," said Mr. Pettigrew.

From Haiti, Mr. Axworthy will continue on to Brazil on May 21.

During his one-day visit, Mr. Axworthy will hold talks with Foreign Minister Lampreia to discuss bilateral, regional and multilateral trade and political issues, and sign a Nuclear Co-operation Agreement. He will also meet with President Cardoso and hold discussions on social issues with Justice Minister Jobim.



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In Buenos Aires, Minister Axworthy will hold talks on May 23 with Foreign Minister Di Tella on the future of the peacekeeping initiative in Haiti and on a range of bilateral issues. Argentina, like Canada, is a member of the "Friends of Haiti" and has contributed troops and police officers to the Haitian initiative in the past. The two ministers are also expected to hold discussions on hemispheric issues such as the upcoming Organization of American States General Assembly, regional security and economic integration.

Mr. Axworthy will then continue on to Guatemala City on May 24 for discussions with Foreign Minister Stein, Canadians involved in the UN peace process and 1992 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Rigoberta Menchu. He will return to Canada on May 24.

"Latin America is increasingly important to Canada both as a trading partner and as partner in a whole range of issues," said the Minister. "We want to explore a number of opportunities for co-operation, building on the strong foundation set by Prime Minister Chrétien during his visit last year."

- 30 -

There will be media opportunities in each country.

For further information on the visit, including travel logistics, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

May 14, 1996

No. 91

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER OF ICELAND TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today that Halldor Asgrimsson, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iceland, will pay a working visit to Ottawa on May 15.

As well as paving the way for this July's Arctic Council, their talks will focus on bilateral issues of common interest, such as NATO and European security, the intensification of transatlantic relations, trade relations between the two countries and fisheries.

"Mr. Asgrimsson's arrival in Canada on Icelandair Airlines' inaugural Reykjavik-Halifax flight, late today, will pave the way for closer links between our two countries. The diversification of our economies will inevitably benefit both sides, beginning with the tourism sector," said Mr. Axworthy.

By attracting visitors from the Nordic countries and elsewhere in Europe, the new air link between Iceland and Canada should have a positive impact on the tourism industry in the Atlantic provinces. "To this end, the Canadian government has recently participated in a tourism promotion campaign," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada and Iceland enjoy excellent relations, reinforced by the presence of some 70 000 Canadians of Icelandic origin. Iceland has a population of about 270 000.

Mr. Asgrimsson will be accompanying Her Excellency Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, the President of Iceland, to Canada. The President will be in Halifax until May 16, when she will receive an honorary doctorate in Civil Law from Saint Mary's University.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

May 15, 1996

No. 92

MINISTERS TO ATTEND OECD MEETING

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Human Resources Development Minister Doug Young will attend this year's meeting of ministers at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, on May 21 and 22.

The ministers will discuss economic growth and employment, strengthening the multilateral trade and investment system, and the future of the OECD.

"The OECD is a key organization for exploring important questions such as investment and trade," said Mr. Eggleton. "The OECD negotiations on a Multilateral Agreement on Investment are a good example. Those negotiations should lead to a more stable investment climate that will help generate jobs and growth."

"Fostering a positive climate for job creation and economic growth remains Canada's top priority," Mr. Young said. "Canada's ongoing involvement in the OECD is essential to promoting long-term international co-operation, which ultimately helps bolster Canada's economy and generates jobs."

The OECD is the major economic policy forum for the world's most advanced industrialized democracies. The 27 members develop compatible approaches on a wide range of economic, social and trade issues, including economic growth, employment, fiscal stability and expanding world trade.

- 30 -

A background document on the OECD Ministerial Meeting is attached.

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Backgrounder

OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING May 21-22, 1996

The annual meeting of ministers from the 27 member countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will focus on three key themes: promotion of economic growth and employment; strengthening the multilateral trade and investment system; and the future of the OECD.

PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT

- The broad outline of the jobs and growth strategy is in place in the major industrial countries. As in Canada, fiscal policies are geared to lowering government deficits in order to reduce high interest rates, which burden the private sector. Monetary policy is focused on price stability. At the same time, most governments are tackling issues such as regulatory reform and are undertaking policies to build on the competitive and innovative potential of the private sector.
- Recent economic indicators suggest that growth has eased in the OECD countries except for Japan, which did not participate in the recovery of 1993-96 and is now experiencing modest real growth. After leading the Group of Seven (G-7) nations in 1994 in real GDP growth (4.6 per cent), Canada was in the middle of the pack in 1995 (at 2.2 per cent), behind the United States, Italy and the United Kingdom but at roughly the same level as Germany and France and well ahead of Japan.
- Over the past three years, Canada (along with the U.S.A. and the U.K.) has made clear progress in creating jobs, and has brought down the unemployment rate by almost two percentage points from 11.2 per cent in 1993 to 9.4 per cent in April 1996. The four other G-7 countries have shown either little improvement or a worsening of the unemployment rate over the last three years.
- In April 1996, G-7 ministers met in Lille, France, to review progress to date and to discuss ways of enhancing the job creation potential of their economies. Although the situation in each of the G-7 countries varied, there was a consensus on the need to adapt to economic and technological change rather than resist it. Canada stood out as a country that had a game plan, and the Conference served to endorse the Government's course of action on jobs and growth. The

"Conclusions of the Chair" were made public after the Conference; they will provide the basis for discussion among ministers at the OECD, and will be presented to leaders at the G-7 Summit in Lyon.

STRENGTHENING THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

World Trade Organization (WTO)

- The WTO, based in Geneva, was established January 1, 1995, as a result of the Uruguay Round negotiations, and serves to oversee the world trading system. By May 22, there will be 121 contracting members of the WTO. An open, rules-based multilateral trading system is fundamental to the growth prospects of small, trade-reliant countries such as Canada.
- It is important that the first WTO Ministerial Conference in Singapore be a success. The WTO Ministerial will take stock of developments since implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements, renew the impetus for ongoing multilateral trade liberalization efforts, and map future directions for the multilateral trading system in support of sustainable real growth, employment and development.
- At the recent meeting of the Quadrilateral Trade Ministers in Kobe, Japan, trade ministers from Canada, the United States, the European Union and Japan affirmed the need for full implementation of WTO agreements by all members. Ministers at the Quadrilateral (known as the Quad) agreed to work together to plan and prepare for the Singapore Ministerial conference.
- The OECD has much to contribute to the ongoing and collective effort to strengthen the trading system. The OECD is currently undertaking analysis of trade and competition policy, trade and investment, and regulatory reform, and is conducting negotiations on investment rules (see below).

Trade and Labour Standards

- Improving labour standards and furthering trade liberalization are complementary objectives. Progress on one should balance and reinforce the other.
- Canada's overall objective is to enhance core labour standards that cover such principles as freedom of association, the right to collective bargaining, forced labour (including the exploitation of child labour), and equality of treatment in employment. Canada believes the International Labour Organization (ILO) is the appropriate forum to carry out this work, and it will encourage the OECD

to disseminate the findings of its analytical study on trade and labour standards.

- The challenge is to develop broad multilateral support for this work. Canada has embarked on consensus building in a number of fora, including the OECD, the ILO and the WTO.
- Recent developments such as the completion of the OECD study on trade and labour standards will help clarify some elements of the debate, and should provide a good basis for expanding the dialogue with non-OECD countries.
- At their recent Kobe meeting, the Quadrilateral Trade Ministers agreed on the need to discuss the relationship between trade and labour standards at the Singapore Conference, with a view to determining how to proceed. They also recognized the primary responsibility of the ILO for the development of core labour standards.
- ILO decisions to accelerate work on child labour and to establish a permanent working party with an agreed program of analysis and research are positive steps.

Negotiations on Export Credits for Agricultural Products

- OECD members are working toward agreement about establishing guidelines on the terms and conditions of officially supported export credits for agricultural products. This issue is a high priority for Canada as there is concern that the beneficial effect of reductions in the use of agricultural export subsidies agreed to in the Uruguay Round could be offset through expanded use of officially supported export credits.
- Canada is in favour of a maximum repayment term of 180 days for most exports of agricultural products.

Negotiations on Investment

- The Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), currently being negotiated under the auspices of the OECD, is to be an agreement with provisions on the general treatment of investment, the protection of investments and an effective dispute settlement mechanism. It is to be a free-standing agreement, open to accession by non-OECD countries willing and able to meet its obligations.
- The MAI negotiations are expected to conclude by June 1997. Canada seeks a comprehensive, state-of-the-art agreement. However, the MAI should allow members to develop their own policies in certain well-defined sensitive sectors, including cultural industries.

- Recent developments, such as the passage of the Helms-Burton Act in the United States, raised legitimate concerns with respect to the absence of international rules in this area, and indicate the need to develop binding multilateral instruments for the security and protection of investments. An MAI without such disciplines would clearly fall short of the commitment, made by ministers last year, to reach an MAI with high standards for investment protection.

Services

- Following the conclusion of the Uruguay Round negotiations and the entry into force of the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), further services negotiations have been conducted on financial services, basic telecommunications, maritime transport and movement of persons.
- On financial services, an interim deal was reached in July 1995. Under the deal, which did not include the United States, trade in financial services will be subject to multilateral rules consistent with the GATS. The agreement will come into force in July 1996 and is scheduled to continue until the end of 1997. At that point it is expected that renewed negotiations will have resulted in a new, more permanent agreement on financial services.
- In parallel with the financial services negotiations, negotiations on the temporary movement of people also concluded in July 1995. As a result of the negotiations, Canada, the European Union, Australia, Austria, Norway, Switzerland and India made commitments improving the conditions under which people supplying services may temporarily enter a country to provide professional, business or technical services.
- The negotiations on basic telecommunications services concluded on April 30, 1996, with a "freeze" of the negotiations. Offers by member countries as of that date will remain on the table, and negotiations will resume for the month from January 15 to February 15, 1997. While Canada is disappointed that the negotiations could not be concluded at this time, the resumption of the negotiations in 1997 represents an opportunity to achieve improved access in important telecommunications markets.
- The negotiations on maritime transport services are continuing, and are scheduled to conclude by June 30, 1996. The objective of the negotiations is to remove restrictions on international shipping, maritime auxiliary services, and access to and use of port services. Canada has made an offer to bind its existing regime. However, this offer is

conditional upon our major trading partners' making similar offers.

Enhancing Development Effectiveness

- In an environment of scarce development assistance funding, Canada is actively seeking ways to maximize the effectiveness of development co-operation efforts. This includes supporting efforts to assist developing countries in integrating into the world trading system and in making sound budgetary decisions (such as reducing military expenditures).

FUTURE OF THE OECD

- The OECD welcomed two new members in 1995 – the Czech Republic and Hungary – bringing the number of members to 27. The other members are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- For the first time in the history of the organization, a non-European and Canadian, the Honourable Donald Johnston, will be appointed as the Secretary-General of the OECD. Mr. Johnston will be replacing Jean-Claude Paye of France as of June 1, 1996.
- The OECD is the lead international institution for providing analysis and policy advice on key issues of importance to Canada and its major partners, including growth and employment, social reform, and strengthening the multilateral economic system.
- As is the case for other multilateral organizations, such as the World Bank and United Nations organizations, the OECD must implement reforms to respond to budgetary cuts and to make the OECD more focused, efficient and effective.
- Canada supports the role of the OECD in promoting further trade liberalization, integration of developing countries into the multilateral system, and the reform efforts of transitional economies in Eastern Europe.

News Release

May 17, 1996

No. 93

EGGLETON TO VISIT GERMANY

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will visit Germany on May 23 and 24 to promote German business investment in Canada and to discuss the strengthening of Canada-Germany trade relations.

"Germany is the world's third-largest economy and a major member of the European Union," Mr. Eggleton said. "It is vital for Canadian businesses to increase their presence in the German marketplace."

Mr. Eggleton will meet with German Minister of Economics Gunter Rexrodt. His schedule also includes meetings with leading members of the German business community. On May 23, Mr. Eggleton will speak to the Cologne Chapter of the Canadian Business Club.

"Canada offers German investors a doorway into the world's largest marketplace - North America," the Minister said. "Raising awareness of this Canadian advantage with the German business community is a major objective of my visit."

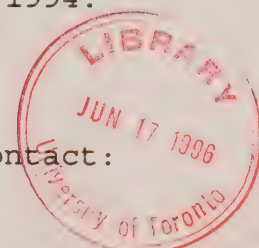
Germany is Canada's fourth-largest trading partner and its fourth-largest foreign direct investor. Over 900 German firms have established themselves in Canada creating over 20 000 jobs.

Two-way trade between Canada and Germany currently stands at over \$8 billion, an improvement of almost \$2 billion over 1994.

- 30 -

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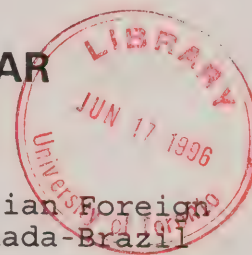
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News Release

May 22, 1996

No. 94

CANADA AND BRAZIL SIGN NUCLEAR CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Brazilian Foreign Minister Luiz Felipe Lampreia today signed the Canada-Brazil Nuclear Co-operation Agreement in Brasilia. The Agreement is fully consistent with both countries' nuclear non-proliferation policies.

"I am pleased that it was possible for Canada and Brazil to reach such a wide-ranging agreement on bilateral nuclear co-operation," said Mr. Axworthy. "This agreement will make it possible for Canadian companies to pursue commercial opportunities in the nuclear sector in Brazil. The Agreement demonstrates the strong commitment to nuclear non-proliferation shared by Canada and Brazil, and represents a further strengthening of expanding relations between the two countries."

The Canada-Brazil Nuclear Co-operation Agreement extends co-operation between the two countries in the use, development and application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and may include any of the following: the supply of information, including technology; the supply of nuclear material and equipment; implementation of research projects; industrial co-operation; technical training; rendering of technical assistance and services; and the exploration for and development of uranium resources.

"I want to underline the role of nuclear energy in supplementing the production of electricity, the production of radio-isotopes for medical purposes, agricultural and industrial uses," said Mr. Lampreia.

"As a holder of these sensitive technologies, Brazil is also perfectly aware of its responsibilities in terms of non-proliferation. It is with this sense of responsibility that we entered the Nuclear Suppliers Group, became members of the International Nuclear Energy Agency, and developed nuclear co-operation programs with a group of partners to which Canada now belongs," he added.



Canada currently has nuclear co-operation agreements with more than 30 countries. These agreements include provisions to ensure that Canadian nuclear exports are only used for peaceful, non-explosive purposes.

Mr. Axworthy is in Brasilia during his May 20-24 visit to Haiti, Brazil, Argentina and Guatemala.

- 30 -

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News Release

May 23, 1996

No. 95

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION HEAD TO VISIT CANADA

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that Renato Ruggiero, Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), will visit Canada, May 27-31, to meet Prime Minister Chrétien and other senior cabinet ministers in Ottawa and give the annual Sylvia Ostry lecture. He will later visit the Toronto area to attend private functions.

"We must maintain the momentum of world trade liberalization," Mr. Eggleton said. "It is key to economic growth and job creation in Canada and the world. The WTO is playing a central role in this process as the linchpin in the global trading system."

Mr. Ruggiero will meet with Mr. Chrétien on Tuesday, May 28, to discuss multilateral trade issues in advance of the G-7 Economic Summit in Lyon in June. The first WTO conference of ministers to be held in Singapore in December will be a major topic of discussion. Mr. Ruggiero will also have a luncheon meeting that day, hosted by Mr. Eggleton.

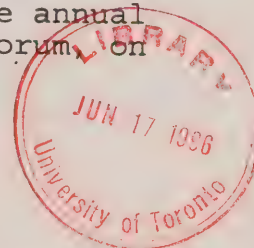
While in Ottawa, the WTO Director General will give the annual Sylvia Ostry lecture, sponsored by the Public Policy Forum, on Tuesday afternoon.

- 30 -

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News Release

May 23, 1996

No. 96

AXWORTHY CALLS FOR RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS BY MYANMAR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today called on the Government of the Union of Myanmar to release all detained members of the National League for Democracy (NLD).

"This is an opportunity for Myanmar to show that it is prepared to begin the process of real democratization," said Mr. Axworthy. "The detention of members of the National League for Democracy sends quite the opposite message."

The Minister said that Canada had expressed its concerns directly to the Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and that it had called upon the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar to allow the NLD full freedom to pursue its activities. The first step in this regard would be to release immediately all detainees and political prisoners so that they can attend the planned NLD conference on May 25-26.

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan commented: "By this latest action, the Myanmar regime is continuing to show its complete intolerance for democratic freedoms."

Canada, through its Ambassador who is now in Rangoon, has directly reaffirmed its support to Nobel Peace Prize Winner Aung San Suu Kyi and the leadership of the NLD.

- 30 -

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News Release

May 24, 1996

No. 97

FOREIGN MINISTER OF POLAND TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Polish Foreign Minister Dariusz Rosati will visit Ottawa on May 27-28.

"This visit attests to the importance both our countries place on our bilateral relations," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada has supported Poland's political and economic transformation, and now looks forward to new opportunities for co-operation."

Ministers Rosati and Axworthy will meet to discuss a number of bilateral issues as well as international questions of common concern, including the integration of Poland into Western political and economic structures. They will also sign a film and television co-production agreement.

During his visit to Ottawa, Minister Rosati will also meet with House of Commons Speaker Gilbert Parent and with Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard.

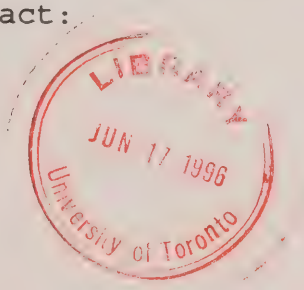
This will be Mr. Rosati's first visit to Canada since assuming office in December.

- 30 -

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News Release

May 27, 1996

No. 98

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind will visit Ottawa on May 30.

"I am confident that our discussions will contribute to the strengthening of our bilateral relations and to the advancement of transatlantic ties," said Mr. Axworthy.

The ministers' discussions will focus on transatlantic relations and European security. They will also discuss UN reform, Commonwealth issues, Hong Kong and international action to promote a ban on anti-personnel land mines.

The British Foreign Secretary will also meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien later in the day.

- 30 -

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News Release

May 29, 1996

No. 99

AXWORTHY TO ATTEND NATO MEETINGS IN BERLIN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will attend North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ministerial meetings in Berlin on June 3 and 4.

"These meetings will provide an opportunity for Canada to reaffirm its commitment to the Alliance and to contribute to enduring peace and security in the Euro-Atlantic area," said Mr. Axworthy.

On June 3, Mr. Axworthy will attend the North Atlantic Council (NAC). The following day will be devoted to the North Atlantic Co-operation Council (NACC). Discussions among NAC and NACC foreign ministers are expected to focus on co-operation between NATO and non-NATO countries and on the NACC/Partnership for Peace program's contribution to regional stability, security and co-operation.

While in Berlin, Mr. Axworthy will take the opportunity to hold bilateral discussions with some of his counterparts also attending the NAC and NACC ministerial meetings.

- 30 -

N.B.: Minister Axworthy's scheduled visits to Austria and Ukraine have been postponed.

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News Release

May 30, 1996

No. 100

SECRETARY OF STATE STEWART TO ATTEND 26th OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN PANAMA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will attend the 26th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Panama City, June 2 to 7, 1996.

"In the past few years, the OAS has demonstrated its determination to take action and assert leadership in matters of the highest regional and global importance," said Mrs. Stewart. "The 1996 General Assembly marks a year of significant achievement for the Organization."

Canada has played an active role in advancing many of the issues on the OAS agenda. Canada will seek the support of OAS members for continued international involvement in Haiti, to ensure the full entrenchment of peace and democracy in that country. Canada will also co-sponsor a resolution to achieve a global ban on anti-personnel land mines and to take specific action within the hemisphere to advance this goal. In addition, Canada has been instrumental in bringing about the full-scale restructuring of the OAS' technical co-operation regime, which will culminate in the launching, at this assembly, of the new Inter-American Council for Integral Development.

While in Panama, Mrs. Stewart will meet with Panamanian ministers, and senior representatives from the Caribbean and Central and South America. She will also participate in a meeting of Foreign Ministers to review progress in implementing the December 1994 Summit of the Americas' Plan of Action.

Mrs. Stewart will also announce Canada's offer to host the OAS General Assembly in 2000, which will mark Canada's 10th year of membership.

- 30 -

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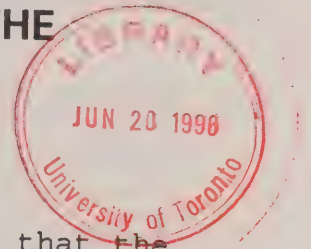
Canada

News Release

May 31, 1996

No. 101

AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II)



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister Responsible for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Honourable Diane Marleau, will lead Canada's official delegation to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

Representatives from some 180 countries will gather in Istanbul, Turkey, June 3 to 14, to adopt a global plan of action aimed at guiding national and international efforts to secure adequate shelter for all people within sustainable cities and communities. Minister Marleau will deliver Canada's statement to the Habitat Conference on June 13. A parallel forum of representatives from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) will be held May 30 to June 11.

"While we continue to address many housing-related issues in our own country, Canadians have the advantage of being among the best-housed people in the world, and our communities are among the best managed. We are going to Habitat to learn, to share experiences, and to work with the international community," said Minister Marleau.

"Since Habitat I was held in Vancouver 20 years ago, the partnership between government and the community at large – including NGOs – has grown as we have addressed the challenges facing us," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada's delegation, which represents the diversity of sectors actively involved in Habitat-related issues, will work to ensure that the progress achieved at other UN conferences and summits on Habitat-related issues are reinforced and advanced in Istanbul."

Members of the Canadian delegation to Habitat II include parliamentarians, provincial government and municipal



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representatives, members of housing, youth, disability and aboriginal organizations, as well as of professional institutes.

Preparations for Habitat II have included conferences, other forums of information exchange and consultations with approximately 350 Canadian organizations. Comments were received from a wide range of groups and interested individuals, including provinces and territories, housing, environmental, aboriginal, women's, youth and other NGOs and community-based organizations.

- 30 -

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Background information on Canada and Habitat II will be available by June 3 on the following Government of Canada Web sites:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>
<http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca>

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News Release

June 3, 1996

No. 102

THE CANADIAN DISARMAMENT DIGEST NOW ON THE INTERNET

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today invited users of the World Wide Web (WWW) to visit *The Canadian Disarmament Digest*, the newest addition to the Web site of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT).

"*The Canadian Disarmament Digest* provides information on Canada's activities in building international peace and security. It will review subjects such as non-proliferation, and arms control and disarmament measures, including the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty negotiations and the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. Other topics of interest will include Canada's efforts to deal with conventional weapons, particularly land mines," said Mr. Axworthy.

The addition of *The Digest* to the WWW is in keeping with Mr. Axworthy's intention to involve Canadians in foreign policy debates on critical non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament issues; Internet users will be able to provide input via a special comment box. "I am convinced that *The Digest* can become a useful instrument in facilitating a better understanding of these concerns and Canada's role in working toward a more secure world," the Minister added.

The Canadian Disarmament Digest can be found by clicking on the "What's New," "News Releases, Statements and Publications" or "Foreign Affairs and Policy" links from the DFAIT Homepage. The WWW site address is as follows:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

- 30 -

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News Release

June 4, 1996

No. 103

OAS ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON HELMS-BURTON ACT

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart welcomed a resolution passed by the Organization of American States (OAS) calling on the Inter-American Juridical Committee (IAJC) to examine the Helms-Burton Act and report on its validity under international law.

"Canada welcomes the support shown by OAS member states for its position on the Helms-Burton Act," said Mrs. Stewart. "This resolution reflects the growing concern of the international community that the Act's extraterritorial impact violates accepted principles of international law."

Mrs. Stewart made the statement in Panama while attending the 26th General Assembly of the Organization of American States. Thirty-two OAS member states co-sponsored the resolution. Only one member opposed it.

The Inter-American Juridical Committee is an independent advisory body of the OAS on legal matters. The IAJC is expected to undertake its examination of the Act at a meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in August. The committee's report would be presented to the Permanent Council of the OAS before the next General Assembly.

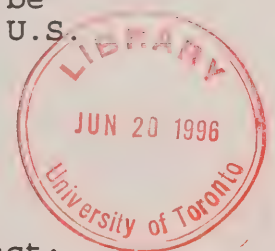
The Helms-Burton Act was signed into law on March 12, 1996. Among other provisions, the Act purports to impose political and economic sanctions on foreign business people deemed to be "trafficking" in expropriated Cuban property claimed by U.S. nationals.

A copy of the resolution is attached.

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RESOLUTION

FREE TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution co-sponsored by the delegations of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela.)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That one of the essential purposes of the Organization of American States (OAS), as established in its Charter, is to seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among the member states;

That international order consists essentially of respect for the personality, sovereignty, and independence of the states and faithful fulfilment of obligations derived from treaties and other sources of international law, as reaffirmed in Article 3 of the OAS Charter;

That Articles 10 and 34 of the Charter establish that every American state has the duty to respect the rights enjoyed by every other state in accordance with international law and that member states should refrain from practising policies and adopting actions or measures that have serious adverse effects on the development of other member states; and

That the member states have repeatedly recognized that economic integration is one of the objectives of the inter-American system and that, in this context, it is essential to expand trade and investment at the regional and subregional levels;

RECALLING that, at the Summit of the Americas, the heads of state and government reaffirmed their strong commitment to multilateral rules and disciplines within the framework of agreements to promote prosperity through economic integration and free trade;

CONCERNED over the enactment and application by the member states of laws and regulations the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other states and the legitimate interests of entities and individuals under their jurisdiction, as well as free trade and investment; and

TAKING NOTE of the declaration of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Rio Group, who met in Cochabamba on May 27, 1996, and the declarations of both member and other states on the adoption of national laws with extraterritorial effects to obstruct international trade and investment of other countries with third countries, as well as the free movement of persons;

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Inter-American Juridical Committee, at its next regular session and as a matter of priority, to examine the validity under international law of the Helms-Burton Act and present its findings to the Permanent Council.
2. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its 27th regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

News Release

June 5, 1996

No. 104

CANADA WELCOMES SUCCESS OF CFE TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE AND REMOVAL OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM UKRAINE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed Canada's support for two important milestones towards arms control and international stability: the successful conclusion of the first Review Conference of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), and the Ukrainian announcement that the last former Soviet nuclear weapon has left Ukraine.

The CFE Treaty, to which Canada is a party, has made a major contribution to European stability since its inception in 1992 – over 50 000 pieces of major military equipment have been eliminated under its provisions. The Review Conference, held in Vienna from May 15 to 31, resolved a difficult question of limits on military equipment within the northern and southern flanks of the CFE region.

"Canada is satisfied with the results of the First CFE Treaty Review Conference," Mr. Axworthy said. "The final document was the result of arduous negotiation and difficult compromise, and represents the best that could have been achieved. The success of the Conference ensures that the CFE Treaty will remain a permanent foundation of European security and stability in changing times and opens the way for its further evolution."

Under the terms agreed at the Conference, the Russian Federation and Ukraine will be permitted to station more military equipment in the flank region than under the original CFE Treaty. However, this will eventually lead to even lower levels of Russian forces than are currently permitted. In addition, the Conference agreed to begin negotiations on further enhancements and adaptations to the existing Treaty in light of changes in the European situation.

This historic success in conventional arms control is matched by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's announcement that the last former Soviet nuclear weapon has left Ukraine. In the early



1990s, there were more nuclear warheads in Ukrainian territory than in any country other than the United States and Russia.

"Canadians recognize and appreciate the determination with which Ukraine has moved to rid itself of nuclear weapons, and we rejoice with Ukrainians that the last of these weapons has now left their country," Mr. Axworthy said. The Minister added that, like Canada, Ukraine has decided not to possess its own nuclear weapons and welcomed this decision.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 5, 1996

No. 105

AXWORTHY CONDEMNS ASSASSINATION IN NIGERIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed shock at the murder of Kudirat Abiola, wife of Chief Moshood Abiola, the jailed winner of the annulled 1993 Nigerian election.

"On behalf of Canadians, I extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Mrs. Abiola, who was a tireless campaigner for the liberation of her husband and for Nigerian democracy in general," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada continues to call for the restoration of democracy in Nigeria."

Mr. Axworthy expressed concern at the continued deterioration of the situation in Nigeria, a country that was suspended from the Commonwealth at the Heads of Government Meeting in New Zealand, last November. Canada will be consulting with the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group and other countries on potential further action.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 6, 1996

No. 106

CANADA TO HOST OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2000

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart today announced that Canada will host the 30th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in the year 2000.

"The opportunity to host the General Assembly in 2000 will allow us to welcome our neighbours to the northernmost end of the hemisphere to witness all that we have to offer as a friend and partner," said Mrs. Stewart. "It will allow Canada to demonstrate its own brand of leadership in developing the inter-American agenda at the dawn of the 21st century."

The year 2000 will mark Canada's 10th anniversary as a member of the OAS.

While in Panama earlier this week at the 26th General Assembly of the OAS, Mrs. Stewart signed the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.

The Convention provides for co-operation in criminal matters among OAS member states. It includes provisions for gathering evidence in one OAS member state for investigations being conducted in the jurisdiction of another member state. It also reduces the need for Canada to sign individual mutual legal assistance treaties with the other 33 OAS members.

Before the signing, Mrs. Stewart officially inaugurated Canada's embassy in Panama. Opened on October 5, 1995, the embassy serves the growing number of Canadian business people seeking trade and investment opportunities in Panama.

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News Release

June 6, 1996

No. 107

AXWORTHY WELCOMES NEW ROLE FOR CANADIAN IN NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE PROCESS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the invitation by the British and Irish governments, and General John de Chastelain's acceptance, to chair part of the all-party negotiations for a permanent settlement in Northern Ireland, which are scheduled to begin on June 10.

"I am confident that General de Chastelain, a distinguished Canadian soldier and diplomat, will make a significant contribution to the peace process in Northern Ireland, a matter of importance for many Canadians," said Mr. Axworthy.

General de Chastelain has been asked to chair both "Strand Two" of the negotiations, which deals with north-south relations within the island of Ireland, and the Business Committee, which handles issues of protocol and procedure for the negotiations. Talks on the decommissioning of weaponry are to take place in parallel to all-party negotiations on Northern Ireland and will be chaired by former U.S. Senator George J. Mitchell, who will also head the Plenary.

Commenting on the May 30 elections in Northern Ireland to a forum from which participants for the all-party peace talks will be drawn, Mr. Axworthy said, "The people of Northern Ireland have demonstrated their commitment to the democratic process. It is now time for their political leaders to establish the conditions for a just and lasting settlement to the dispute in Northern Ireland."

The invitation to General de Chastelain follows his service as a member of the International Body on the Decommissioning of Arms in Northern Ireland, in December and January. The International Body was appointed by the British and Irish governments to provide advice on removing the gun from Irish politics. Senator Mitchell chaired the Body, and former Finnish Prime Minister



Harri Harmanni Holkeri was a member. Mr. Holkeri will act as alternate chair to Senator Mitchell and General de Chastelain.

In welcoming the invitation to General de Chastelain, Mr. Axworthy reiterated the Canadian government's call on the Irish Republican Army to reinstate its cease fire.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 8, 1996

No. 108

CANADA DEPLORES CHINESE NUCLEAR TEST

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today deplored the Chinese nuclear weapons test explosion carried out on June 8.

"We are deeply disappointed with China's decision to carry out further nuclear tests, and call on the Chinese government to cease these tests immediately. This incident is particularly unhelpful given that the Conference on Disarmament is in its final weeks of negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)," said Mr. Axworthy. "We call on China to work with us and the other countries represented at the Conference to conclude the CTBT so that it can be signed at the United Nations in New York in September. We know that China is committed to signing this critical treaty, and call on it to be among the first countries to ratify it."

The Minister reiterated that Canada's position on nuclear testing is clear and consistent: no nuclear test explosions by any nuclear weapons state, and speedy progress toward concluding a CTBT.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 10, 1996



No. 109

OAS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON CONTINUED INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN HAITI AND ON GLOBAL ELIMINATION OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart today welcomed the unanimous adoption of two resolutions by the Organization of American States (OAS) – one on international assistance to Haiti and one calling for a hemisphere free of anti-personnel mines. The Canadian delegation to last week's OAS General Assembly in Panama was led by Mrs. Stewart.

"The adoption of these resolutions is a clear illustration of what can be accomplished when countries work together towards a humanitarian goal," said Mrs. Stewart. "Canada can be proud of what it accomplished at this General Assembly by proposing these two resolutions and seeing them adopted unanimously."

"Canada, as a key contributor to the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), welcomes the OAS support and resolution calling for an international presence in Haiti," said Mr. Axworthy. "In addition, the OAS resolution on land mines represents the firm political will of 34 countries of the hemisphere to achieve a global ban on the production, use and export of anti-personnel land mines. These weapons have caused immeasurable suffering and have hindered the development efforts of countries already devastated by conflict," he added.

The resolution on Haiti encourages the international community to sustain the same level of commitment it showed during the years of crisis. It recommends that, at the request of the Haitian government, a strong international presence be maintained there. It also urges the international community to support fully the strengthening of the Haitian National Police and to consolidate the stable and democratic environment necessary for economic growth and development.



Last month, Mr. Axworthy travelled to Haiti where he held talks with President René Préval and other Haitian officials on the future of peacekeeping there. The UN military force in Haiti is under the overall command of a Canadian general; in addition Canada has 700 peacekeepers and 100 police personnel on the ground.

The OAS resolution on anti-personnel mines calls upon participating countries to work towards the global elimination of anti-personnel mines and to take steps towards a hemisphere free of these weapons. The resolution also calls on OAS states to implement moratoriums on the production, transfer and use of anti-personnel land mines at the earliest possible date.

In January 1996, Canada declared comprehensive unilateral moratoriums on the production, export and operational use of anti-personnel land mines. Earlier this week, Canada made the commitment to provide financial support for mine clearance in Central America through the new Inter-American Council for Integral Development.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 11, 1996

No. 110

CANADA AND MEXICO EXTEND BILATERAL CO-OPERATION

The Government of Canada today signed two agreements and four memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with Mexico as part of efforts to broaden the relationship between the two countries. The signings took place during Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo's visit to Canada, June 10-14, 1996.

A memorandum of understanding was signed creating an exchange program for Canadian and Mexican foreign service officers, which is scheduled to begin this autumn. The governments also signed an agreement promoting the creation of nation-wide educational networks in Mexico, and an arrangement extending co-operation in the field of distance learning.

Two MOUs dealing with geoscience and energy were also signed to promote improvements and exchanges of information in these areas. An additional memorandum on co-operation in mining policy, first signed in 1993, was renewed.

- 30 -

The attached backgrounder provides additional information on the agreements and MOUs signed.

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Backgrounder

The following agreements and memorandums of understanding were signed in Ottawa between the Government of Canada and the Government of Mexico on June 11, 1996.

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada and the Ministry of Foreign Relations of the United Mexican States, concerning Exchanges of Foreign Service Officers

This MOU will establish an exchange program for foreign service officers between the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Exchanges under this agreement will be for a period of one year, and will contribute to the professional development and specialization of foreign service officers from both countries. The first exchange is scheduled to begin in the autumn of 1996.

Signatories: The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Secretary Ángel Gurría, Ministry of Foreign Relations

Industry Canada

Implementing Arrangement for Co-operation in the Field of Technologies for Distance Learning between the Department of Industry Canada and the Ministry of Public Education of the United Mexican States

This implementing arrangement will provide for an exchange of views on government policy relating to bilateral co-operation in the field of interactive educational and communication technologies. This arrangement will be in effect until 2001.

Signatories: The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Secretary Ángel Gurría, Ministry of Foreign Relations

Industry Canada

Arrangement on Parallel Development of Educational Networks between Industry Canada and the Ministry of Public Education of the United Mexican States

This arrangement will promote the development and implementation of nation-wide educational networks. These interconnected networks will provide teachers and students with access to information services, teaching resources, learning materials, authoring tools, instruction and training courses. As a result of this agreement, the Government of Mexico will be implementing an educational network similar to Industry Canada's SchoolNet model.

Signatories: The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Secretary Ángel Gurría, Ministry of Foreign Relations

Natural Resources Canada

Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation in Mining Policy between Natural Resources Canada and the Ministry of Commerce and Industrial Development (SECOFI) of the United Mexican States

This MOU reconfirms bilateral policy co-operation and co-ordination in multilateral activities that affect bilateral trade in minerals and metals. This is a renewal of a memorandum of understanding first signed in 1993.

Signatories: The Honourable Anne McLellan, Minister for Natural Resources
Secretary Herminio Blanco, Ministry of Commerce and Industrial Development

Natural Resources Canada

Memorandum of Understanding for Scientific and Technical Co-operation in Geoscience and Cartography between the Geological Surveys of Canada and the Council of Mineral Resources of the United Mexican States

This MOU will promote long-term co-operation and foster future development of commercial exchanges in the geoscience field.

Signatories: The Honourable Anne McLellan, Minister for Natural Resources
Secretary Herminio Blanco, Ministry of Commerce and Industrial Development

Natural Resources Canada*Memorandum of Understanding between Natural Resources Canada and
the Ministry of Energy of the United Mexican States on
Co-operation in Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy*

This MOU will promote opportunities to improve the design and delivery of energy efficiency and alternative energy programs. It will establish a framework for the exchange of information concerning energy efficiency products, energy management services and alternative energy goods and services.

Signatories: The Honourable Anne McLellan, Minister for Natural Resources
Secretary Jesús Reyes-Heróles, Ministry of Energy

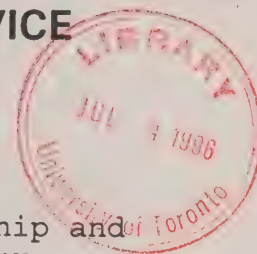
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News Release

June 13, 1996

No. 111

MINISTERS CONGRATULATE 1996 FOREIGN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Lucienne Robillard today congratulated the four winners of the 1996 Canadian Foreign Service Officer Awards.

The award winners are:

- Kerry Buck, Second Secretary at the Canadian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York, for her significant contribution to Canada's leading role at the Fourth United Nations World Conference on Women at Beijing in September 1995;
- Eduardo del Buey, Counsellor in Charge of the Cultural, Media and Academic Relations Section of the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City, for his outstanding work to enhance cultural and academic relations between Canada and Spain and Canada and Mexico;
- Dominic Scott, an Officer with the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei, for his role in planning, developing and implementing "Festival Canada," a six-week integrated series of business, cultural, educational and immigration-related activities, in Taiwan in April-May 1996; and
- Anne Arnott, Deputy Director, Eastern Europe Division, International Region, Citizenship and Immigration, in recognition of her consistent and exceptional performance in delivering Canada's immigration programs throughout her career.

The Canadian Foreign Service Officer Awards were instituted in 1990 by the Professional Association of Foreign service Officers (PAFSO) to acknowledge exceptional achievements by career foreign service officers.

Judges for this year's Awards were Georges H. Blouin, formerly Chief of Protocol for the Canadian Government and Ambassador to the Netherlands, Spain and Cameroon; Meriel V.M. Bradford, Vice-President of Government and Regulatory Affairs, Teleglobe Inc.; Mark Drake, President of the Alliance of Manufacturers and



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Exporters Canada; D. Ian Glen, Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (Operations), Privy Council Office; and Jeff Sallot, Diplomatic Correspondent in the Parliamentary Bureau, *The Globe and Mail*.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 14, 1996

No. 112

CANADA SUPPORTS MONTREAL'S BID FOR INTERNATIONAL DESERTIFICATION SECRETARIAT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew and Secretary of State for the Federal Office of Regional Development (Quebec) Martin Cauchon today announced federal government support for the City of Montreal's bid to host the Permanent Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

"The Secretariat is expected to bring significant economic benefits to the City of Montreal and increased international prestige to Canada," said Mr. Pettigrew. "The Government of Canada will work closely with the Government of Quebec, the City of Montreal and the Montreal International Conference Centre Corporation to mount a strong campaign, similar to the successful bid for the Permanent Secretariat on Biodiversity."

In less than five years, Montreal has become a major location for international organizations involved in protecting the environment. These include the Secretariat of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Ozone Protocol, the North American Commission for Environmental Co-operation (a North American Free Trade Agreement institution), the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (which was officially inaugurated on May 6), the Montreal office of the World Conservation Union, the Network of Expertise for the Global Environment and the International Water Secretariat.

"Canada is a world leader on environment issues, and Montreal has gained an enviable reputation as an ideal location for international organizations in this field," said Mr. Axworthy. "Montreal will therefore be a strong contender for the Desertification Secretariat."

The federal government has pledged \$4 million over a five-year period to the Desertification Secretariat, should Montreal be chosen as its site. The Government of Quebec will donate \$1.25 million and is also willing to provide a loan of services valued at \$1.05 million. The City of Montreal has offered a contribution of \$280 000 over five years, and the Montreal

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International Conference Centre will give an in-kind contribution valued at \$700 000.

"Our support for this project is consistent with the federal government's contribution to the development of Montreal's economy," said Mr. Cauchon.

Canada played an active role in the negotiations leading to the Desertification Convention, and was among the first countries to ratify it in December 1995. Under the Convention, developing and developed countries have agreed to work together to fight desertification, which is a worldwide problem affecting about one-sixth of the world's people in almost 100 countries. If left unchecked, it could lead to crop failure, scarcity of fuel wood and grazing lands, loss of biodiversity, social strife and mass migrations. Canada's support for the Convention reflects the Government's priority to address global and regional environmental issues. It also complements the Canadian International Development Agency's backing over almost 20 years for innovative approaches to desertification control in Africa, Asia and the Americas.

World Day to Combat Desertification is being celebrated on June 17. The Canadian International Development Agency will mark the occasion by hosting a forum on the Desertification Convention, entitled "The Road from Conception to Implementation." Panelists include M.P. Clifford Lincoln and Pierre-Marc Johnson, both of whom are environment and development experts, and Friederike Knabe of Solidarité Canada Sahel/USC Canada. The forum will be held on June 17, 9:30a.m.-12:00p.m., in the Pontiac Room, 140 promenade du Portage, Phase IV, Hull.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

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News Release

June 14, 1996

No. 113

CROWN PRINCE HASSAN OF JORDAN TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the visit of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan, June 17-19. The Crown Prince is heir to the Jordanian throne and the brother of King Hussein of Jordan.

"Canada has the highest respect for Jordan and the courageous leadership provided by King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan in the pursuit of peace," said Mr. Axworthy. "I look forward to meeting His Royal Highness to discuss our countries' active involvement in the Middle East Peace Process and our warm bilateral relationship."

During his visit, Crown Prince Hassan will meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Governor General Roméo LeBlanc, Senate Speaker Gildas Molgat, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, International Trade Minister Art Eggleton, and Minister of International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre Pettigrew. The Prince will also meet with Canada Post President André Ouellet, senior officials from the International Development Research Centre and Canadian business representatives.

Crown Prince Hassan will give keynote addresses at two Canadian International Development Agency-sponsored conferences in Hull, and at a reception hosted by Minister Pettigrew in Montreal.

- 30 -

The attached list presents all scheduled media opportunities during Crown Prince Hassan's visit.

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WORKING VISIT OF CROWN PRINCE HASSAN OF JORDAN

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

MONDAY, JUNE 17
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Time: 09:00 - 10:15
Location: Salle des Banquets, Palais des congrès, Hull
Event: Address at conference on "Muslim and Christian NGOs: A Dialogue on Relief, Development and Co-operation"

Time: 10:15 - 10:30
Location: Salon La Lièvre, Palais des congrès, Hull
Event: News conference

Time: 10:45 - 10:55
Location: Parliament Hill, Rotunda, Centre Block
Event: Photo-Op with Deputy Speaker of the Senate Gerald Ottenheimer, and Speaker of the House of Commons Gilbert Parent

Time: 11:00
Location: Parliament Hill, Centre Block
Event: Photo-Op with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien

Time: 11:20
Location: Parliament Hill, Centre Block (Room 112-N)
Event: Photo-Op with members of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade

Time: 18:15 - 18:45
Location: L.B. Pearson Building
Event: News Conference with Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy

TUESDAY, JUNE 18
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Time: 10:00-11:00
Location: Salons Dessert A & B, Palais des congrès, Hull
Event: Address on "Human Dimension of the Peace Process" at
"Peace Building Contact Group Conference"

Time: 11:15 - 11:30
Location: Salon La Lièvre, Palais des congrès, Hull
Event: News conference

Time: 16:30
Location: Rideau Hall, Governor General's Study
Event: Photo-op with Governor General Roméo LeBlanc and
Mrs. Diana Fowler LeBlanc

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19
MONTREAL

Time: 17:00 - 17:30
Location: Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal
Event: Photo-Op and press scrum with Pierre Pettigrew, Minister
for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible
for la Francophonie

Time: 18:00 - 18:30
Location: Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal
Event: Addresses given by Minister Pettigrew and Crown Prince
Hassan of Jordan

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News Release

June 15, 1996

No. 114

CANADA CONDEMNS MANCHESTER BOMBING

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has firmly condemned the bombing at the Arndale Shopping Centre in Manchester, England, earlier today. He extended his sympathy to the many victims and their families.

"Atrocities such as today's attack are abhorrent and should never recur. The Manchester bombing is particularly revolting coming as it does soon after the commencement of Northern Ireland peace talks and against the backdrop of the admission by the Irish Republican Army [IRA] that it was responsible for the murder of a Garda [Irish Police] officer in Adare, Ireland, last week," said Mr. Axworthy.

He added, "Democratic and non-violent means, particularly the peace talks, should be used to achieve peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. The Manchester bombing should not be permitted to deflect the parties from their task of moving the peace process forward. Canada calls on Sinn Fein to go beyond statements and demonstrate its commitment to the peace process by convincing the IRA of the imperative need for unequivocal reinstatement of its ceasefire."

Mr. Axworthy praised the security and medical services on the effective way in which they responded to the bombing. He concluded, "The British authorities should be supported in their search for the perpetrators of this terrorist act."

- 30 -

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CAI
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News Release

June 17, 1996

No. 115

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES MEASURES TO OPPOSE U.S. HELMS-BURTON ACT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton announced today that the government will introduce legislation amending the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) to help protect Canadian companies against foreign measures such as the U.S. Helms-Burton Act.

Mr. Eggleton also said that Canada will request a ministerial-level meeting of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Commission. He noted that this is a necessary step before any request for a NAFTA dispute settlement panel.

"The Helms-Burton law flies in the face of international legal principles," said Mr. Eggleton. "The FEMA changes will give Canadian companies more legal tools to protect themselves against U.S. court claims under Helms-Burton. We will continue to defend Canadian interests strongly, including through the NAFTA process."

"Canada shares the U.S. objectives of improving human rights standards and moving to more representative government in Cuba," Mr. Axworthy said. "But we are concerned that the Helms-Burton Act takes the wrong approach. That is why we have been working with other countries to uphold the principles of international law."

The Helms-Burton Act permits lawsuits to be launched in U.S. courts against Canadian and other foreign firms allegedly "trafficking" in property expropriated by Cuba from American nationals. It also provides for restrictions on temporary entry into the United States of corporate officers and controlling shareholders of these companies, along with their spouses and minor children.



The proposed FEMA amendments would authorize the Attorney General to:

- issue "blocking" orders declaring that judgments handed down under any objectionable foreign law will not be enforced or recognized in Canada;
- allow Canadians to recover in Canadian courts any amounts awarded under those foreign rulings, along with their court costs in Canada and the foreign country – a measure known as "clawback"; and
- create and, in future, amend a schedule listing pieces of objectionable foreign legislation that, in the view of the Attorney General of Canada, violate international law.

As part of the FEMA amendments, the government will update penalties so that they are more effective in deterring Canadians from abiding by objectionable foreign laws. These provisions will give Canadian courts the discretion to vary the penalty according to mitigating circumstances.

Canada has held two rounds of consultations with the United States on the Helms-Burton Act under the NAFTA dispute settlement process. Before going to a dispute settlement panel, the issue must be raised at a meeting of trade ministers at a NAFTA Commission session. Canada would be in a position to request a NAFTA panel 30 days after the Commission meeting.

Canada has objected strongly to both the claims provisions and those relating to the denial of entry under the Act. In addition to the NAFTA consultations, Canada has been working with other countries in opposing the U.S. law in regional and multilateral organizations.

- 30 -

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Backgrounder

CANADA'S FOREIGN EXTRATERRITORIAL MEASURES ACT, THE U.S. HELMS-BURTON ACT AND THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Canada's Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act

- The Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) became law in February 1985, and was designed to defend Canadian interests against attempts by foreign governments or courts to apply unreasonable laws or rulings in Canada.
- FEMA currently gives the Attorney General of Canada, in agreement with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the authority to forbid compliance in Canada with extraterritorial measures that, in the Attorney General's view, infringe Canadian sovereignty. In addition, there is authority to restrict provision of documents to foreign courts if such an action infringes Canadian sovereignty.
- The Act is now being strengthened to allow Canada to respond to new measures, such as recent attempts by the United States to attack legitimate Canadian business interests under the Helms-Burton Act.
- The proposed FEMA amendments would permit the Attorney General of Canada to block any attempt by a foreign claimant to enforce a judgment under a law such as Helms-Burton in Canada. It would also give Canadian companies recourse in Canadian courts if awards are made against them in U.S. courts under the Helms-Burton Act. The FEMA amendments would provide a right to claim damages in Canada for an equivalent amount against the American claimant.
- Moreover, in the future the Attorney General could place other foreign laws he considers objectionable on a list under FEMA.

Here is how these changes might apply in a hypothetical example:

- U.S. national X might win a suit against a Canadian, Y, in a U.S. court under the Helms-Burton Act.
- If the Canadian had no assets in the United States, the U.S. national would have to ask a Canadian court to enforce the judgment. The Attorney General of Canada could issue an order blocking this process.

- The Canadian, Y, could choose to sue X in Canadian courts to recoup the full amount of the award that X had won in the foreign court. This amount plus court costs in both countries would be applied against X's assets in Canada.
- In addition to these FEMA changes, financial penalties under the Act will be increased to discourage compliance with objectionable foreign laws. Under the current system, a Canadian company, faced with conflicting demands under foreign and Canadian law, might well choose to obey the law of the foreign country if the penalties there are substantially greater than in Canada. Under the FEMA changes, courts will be able to vary the penalty according to mitigating circumstances.
- Current penalties range up to C\$10,000 or five years imprisonment, or both, upon indictment. Comparable maximum financial penalties under the U.S. Cuban Assets Control Regulations are up to US\$ 1 million.

The U.S. Helms-Burton Act: Title III

- Title III of the Helms-Burton Act allows U.S. nationals with claims on expropriated property in Cuba to sue in U.S. courts in order to recover money from foreign companies or people who "traffic" in that property.
- As an example, such a claim could involve a Canadian firm that invests in a property that a U.S. national claims was expropriated by the government of Cuba sometime in the past.
- This section of the Act comes into effect on August 1, unless President Clinton decides to use his discretionary authority under the Act to delay it for periods of six months.
- If the claims provisions come into effect August 1, the earliest that lawsuits could be filed in U.S. courts would be November 1, 1996.

The U.S. Helms-Burton Act: Title IV

- Title IV of the Helms-Burton Act allows the U.S. government to deny entry to senior executives of companies that the U.S. State Department determines are "trafficking" after March 12, 1996, in property subject to a U.S. claim. This provision also applies to spouses and minors of these executives.
- This aspect of the bill applies to those who "traffic" in expropriated property from March 12, 1996. The American government has already sent advisory letters to three firms

— one Canadian, one Mexican and one Italian — warning them that persons associated with the company may be excluded from the United States.

Canada's Moves to Oppose Helms-Burton

- Canada's objections to the Helms-Burton Act have been raised at the highest levels. Canada is working to oppose Helms-Burton in such international bodies as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Organization of American States (OAS).
- Canada is also pursuing this issue through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which has rules governing investment and temporary entry.
- NAFTA consultations were held with the United States in late April and again in May. Mexico participated in both sessions and shares Canada's concerns.
- Canada has now requested a ministerial-level meeting of the North American Free Trade Agreement Commission. This is a necessary step toward proceeding to a dispute settlement panel under the NAFTA.

The NAFTA dispute settlement process

- The first step in a NAFTA dispute is to hold consultations.
- If the issue cannot be resolved at this level, the next step is to refer the matter to the ministerial-level NAFTA Commission.
- Thirty days after the Commission meeting, the matter may be referred to a panel for resolution.
- Canada, the United States and Mexico have held two rounds of consultations on the Helms-Burton Act.
- Canada intends to request a NAFTA Commission meeting to discuss the issue. Under NAFTA rules, the meeting should be held within 10 days of the request.

Helms-Burton: Key Dates

The Helms-Burton legislation began as separate bills in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in February 1995. The House and the Senate each approved significantly different versions of the legislation in the fall of 1995. At that time, the U.S. Administration opposed the inclusion of Titles III and IV in the bill.

Key events in 1996 include:

February 24: The Cuban air force shot down two U.S. civilian aircraft. President Clinton threw his support behind the bill soon afterward.

March 3-4: Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton raised the issue in a Washington meeting with his American counterpart, then-U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

March 4-5: The summit of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) leaders, including Prime Minister Chrétien, issued a communiqué in Grenada strongly objecting to the bill.

March 5: Mr. Eggleton met with the ambassadors of European Union (EU) countries plus 17 other countries to outline Canada's concerns about Helms-Burton and to suggest working together on the issue in international organizations.

March 12: The Helms-Burton bill was signed into law by the U.S. President. On the same day, Canada requested formal consultations with the United States under NAFTA Chapter 20.

March 28: Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy expressed Canada's concerns about Helms-Burton in a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Washington.

April 16: At the World Trade Organization (WTO) General Council meeting, Canada joined other countries, including the European Union, Mexico and Japan, in expressing strong opposition to Helms-Burton.

April 22: European Union foreign ministers issued a statement in Luxembourg condemning the Helms-Burton Act and indicating an intention to consider a challenge under the WTO.

April 26: The first round of NAFTA consultations, involving both Canada and Mexico, was held in Washington.

May 3: The EU formally requested WTO consultations on Helms-Burton.

May 16: Prime Minister Chrétien and Central American leaders from Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Belize issued a communiqué stressing the right of sovereign states to maintain trade and commercial links according to their own foreign policies and laws.

May 21-22: Mr. Eggleton strongly registered Canada's concerns at an OECD ministerial meeting in Paris.

May 22-23: Mr. Axworthy raised the Helms-Burton issue with foreign ministers in Argentina and Brazil during a visit to those two countries.

May 28: A second round of NAFTA consultations was held in Washington.

May 29: The U.S. government sent out advisory letters to three companies, including one Canadian firm, informing them that they were potential "traffickers."

June 4: EU-U.S. consultations were held in Geneva under the auspices of the WTO.

June 4: The Organization of American States issued a resolution at its General Assembly in Panama, calling for the Inter-American Juridical Committee to investigate whether the Helms-Burton Act is consistent with international law.

June 11: Mexican President Zedillo expressed strong concerns about Helms-Burton in a speech to the Parliament of Canada while visiting Ottawa.

June 17: Publication of U.S. guidelines on Title IV.

June 18: Canada will request a NAFTA Commission meeting of trade ministers which, under NAFTA rules, should be held within 10 days.

July 15: Deadline for U.S. Presidential decision on suspension of Title III.

August 1: Title III comes into effect unless suspended. If it is implemented, U.S. claimants can warn "traffickers" that they have 90 days in which to divest themselves of Cuban assets or potentially face lawsuits in U.S. courts.

November 1: First date for claims to be filed in U.S. courts if the claims provisions of Helms-Burton are implemented.

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News Release

June 19, 1996

No. 116

AXWORTHY AND ANDERSON ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENT OF CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO ICAO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Transport Minister David Anderson today announced the appointment of Mrs. Ghislaine Richard to a three-year term as Canada's representative to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

ICAO is the UN agency responsible for developing standards on international civil aviation.

"With her vast experience in aviation, Mrs. Richard is well suited to promoting and defending the interests of Canada in ICAO," said Mr. Axworthy. "The appointment is especially appropriate in that, as host country of ICAO, Canada plays a leading role in this international organization," added Mr. Anderson.

Mrs. Richard holds a degree in Law from the University of Montreal and in Air and Space Law from McGill. She has served as Vice-Chairperson and Chairperson of the Civil Aviation Tribunal. She was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Quebec Division, Canadian Bar Association (CBA), President of the Quebec Division of the CBA Air and Space Law Section, and Chairperson of the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals.

As Canada's representative, Mrs. Richard will sit on the ICAO Council, which comprises 33 member states. She will also provide liaison between Canada, as host country, and ICAO, headquartered in Montreal.

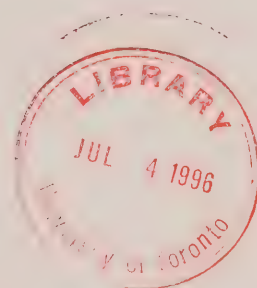
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News Release

June 20, 1996

No. 117

AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES SANCTIONS AGAINST SUDAN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada will impose diplomatic and travel restrictions on Sudanese government officials. The decision was taken in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1054 of April 26, 1996, calling on member states to impose sanctions against the Government of Sudan for its implication in the assassination attempt on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at the June 1995 OAU Summit in Addis Ababa, and for its support of terrorist activities.

"This decision demonstrates concretely Canada's commitment to the fight against international terrorism. It also underlines our belief in the importance and the effectiveness of co-ordinated international action," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada will be implementing the following sanctions: freezing the country's representation in Canada at the present low level of two diplomats; prohibiting Embassy personnel from travelling outside the National Capital region without prior authorization; denying or restricting the entry or transit of members, officials, or military personnel of the Government of Sudan; and instructing Canadian government departments and agencies to refrain from organizing or attending international conferences or meetings in Sudan.

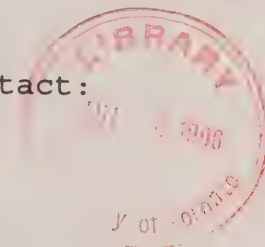
Similar action is being taken by other countries, notably the United States and members of the European Union.

- 30 -

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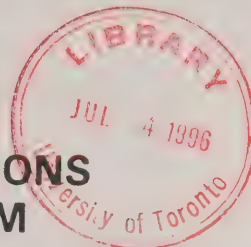
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News Release

June 21, 1996

No. 118

GOVERNMENT RESPONDS TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton, and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew today tabled before Parliament the Government's reply to the report of the Second Annual National Forum on Canada's International Relations. Held in Toronto in September 1995, the Forum's theme was "Canada and International Institutions."

In expressing its agreement with the main recommendations of the report, the Government affirms that international institutions must become more coherent, more efficient, more responsible and more transparent. The Government will continue to regard reform of the international financial institutions and of the United Nations as a priority. It will also place special emphasis on regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Organization of American States (OAS), while reaffirming the importance of the Francophonie and the Commonwealth.

As for the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Government will place priority on applying the terms and conditions of the WTO, including the dispute settlement mechanism. The purpose is to establish a multilateral trade regime based on mutually agreed upon market access conditions and on trade rules that apply equitably to all the member countries.

In addition, as recommended by the Forum, the Government intends to make civilian peacekeeping a priority of its foreign policy. With this in mind, it intends to have non-governmental organizations play a larger part in developing strategies for conflict prevention and peacekeeping.



The annual Forum is part of the Government's commitment to seek greater public participation in formulating foreign policy.

- 30 -

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To obtain a printed copy of the Government's reply or to access it by electronic means:

1. Call Centre Hotline/Walk-in Centre
1-800-267-8376, or (613) 944-4000 in the Ottawa-Hull region.
2. FaxLink Domestic and International
Users in Canada must dial (613) 944-4500 from a fax machine and interact with the system using the Touch-Tone keypad on their telephone. From outside Canada, dial (613) 944-6500. The only costs are the applicable long-distance charges.
3. InfoCentre Bulletin Board (IBB)
To access the system, you need a computer, modem, telephone line and basic communications software. Dial (613) 944-1581 or 1-800-628-1581 (toll-free in Canada) to access the site and register on-line.
4. Internet Web Site
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

News Release

June 27, 1996

No. 119

CANADA AND EUROPEAN UNION REACH AGREEMENT ON SCALLOP LABELLING

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade and the Honourable Fred Mifflin, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announced on June 25 that Canada and the European Union have reached an agreement concerning the labelling of Canadian scallops exported to France.

"This agreement marks the successful outcome of Canada's first case under the new World Trade Organization (WTO) trade dispute settlement system," Mr. Eggleton said. "It should permit Canadian scallops to compete equally with other imported and domestic scallops in the lucrative French market."

Since March 1993, France insisted that Canadian scallops, along with most other imported scallops be labelled as "pétoncles." Exports of Canadian scallops to France prior to the changes in labelling exceeded \$10 million per year, but reached less than \$3.5 million in 1995. The agreement reached between Canada and the European Union, which acts on behalf of France on international trade matters, ensures that Canadian scallops can now be labelled as "Saint-Jacques," along with the species name.

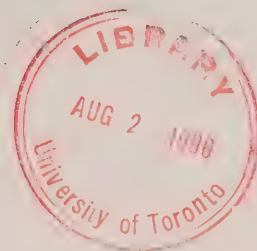
"France has always been our second-largest export market for scallops after the United States," Mr. Mifflin said. "This agreement on labelling will mean additional income for fishers in Atlantic Canada."

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A backgrounder is attached.

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Background

CANADIAN SCALLOP LABELLING

In March 1993, the French government introduced a new labelling regulation that permitted only certain scallops to be sold as "Noix de Coquille Saint-Jacques." Canadian scallops could be sold only under the label "pétoncles," which has an inferior image in France and a market price of 20-25 per cent less than that of "Noix de Coquille Saint-Jacques." Canadian scallops have been sold in France since approximately 1945 under the names "Noix de Coquille Saint-Jacques" and "Noix de Saint-Jacques." Exports prior to the changes in labelling exceeded \$10 million per year, but reached less than \$3.5 million in 1995.

Following unsuccessful efforts to resolve the issue bilaterally, Canada requested GATT Article XXII:1 consultations with the European Union (EU) in August 1993. Several changes have been made to the regulation since those consultations, which have led to substantial confusion in the French marketplace and added costs for Canadian exporters as a result of smaller shipment and new packaging requirements. The final version permitted only "pétoncles" to be used on the label.

In June 1995, in an effort to resolve this issue, Canada requested WTO consultations with the European Union, which acts on behalf of France in the World Trade Organization (WTO). Other exporting countries, i.e. the United States, Chile, Peru, Japan and Iceland, joined Canada in the consultations. No resolution was reached and the WTO Dispute Settlement Body approved the establishment of a panel on July 19, 1995. The panel held meetings in October and December 1995, and February 1996. Chile and Peru also requested a panel to hear the same dispute. Although two distinct panels were established, the three panelists were the same in both cases and the interim reports were issued at the same time.

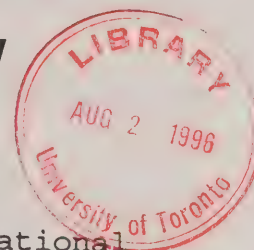
Since then, Canada and the EU have continued their discussions leading to the agreement announced today. The Canada-EU agreement recognizes the legitimacy of the Canadian position on this issue. As a result of today's agreement, Canadian scallops, as well as all others sold in France, can now be labelled "Saint-Jacques," along with the species name. Two Canadian scallop species are affected by this agreement, *Placopecten magellanicus* and *Chlamys icelandicus*, both of which originate from Canada's east coast. This should resolve Canada's access problem and permit Canadian scallops to compete equally with other imported and domestic scallops in the French market.

News Release

June 28, 1996

No. 120

CANADA WELCOMES CREATION OF NEW UN PEACEKEEPING MISSION IN HAITI



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of National Defence David Collenette and Pierre S. Pettigrew, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, today welcomed the decision of the United Nations Security Council to create the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (UNSMIH), which will be operational for the five-month period July 1 to November 30, 1996. This mission will replace the United Nations Mission in Haiti, whose mandate ends on June 30, 1996.

"We are pleased that the Security Council has agreed on the terms for this new UN peacekeeping mission in Haiti. Canada firmly believes that the continuation of the UN's presence will assist Haiti's efforts to consolidate democracy and will provide a firm foundation for peace and development in that country," said Mr. Axworthy.

"Canada's continued involvement with this UN mission is an indication of our determination to ensure stability and security in Haiti," said Mr. Collenette. "Our troop contribution will number up to 750, in keeping with our previous peacekeeping commitment."

The ministers noted that Canada's historic ties to Haiti have been strengthened through peacekeeping efforts and the bilateral development assistance program and that the two countries have a close relationship based on people-to-people contacts and a shared Francophone heritage. Canada's continued involvement in this mission is in keeping with the all-party resolution of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

"I am pleased that Canada, through funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency, will contribute 100 police officers to UNSMIH's civilian police contingent of 300," said Mr. Pettigrew.



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UNSMIH will be jointly funded by the UN and voluntary contributions from interested members, including Canada. Its mandate will be to assist in the professionalization of the Haitian National Police, to help maintain a climate of public security and to provide assistance in strengthening Haiti's democratic institutions.

- 30 -

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News Release

July 2, 1996

No. 121

AXWORTHY CONGRATULATES LEONEL FERNANDEZ REYNA ON HIS ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today congratulated Leonel Fernandez Reyna on his election as President of the Dominican Republic. Mr. Fernandez won the run-off ballot of the presidential election held on June 30, 1996.

"Canada actively supports the strengthening of democracy throughout the Western Hemisphere, particularly in the Caribbean," said Mr. Axworthy. "In this context, the order and calm that surrounded these elections constitute a guarantee of stability in the Dominican Republic and are a testimony to the country's remarkable democratic development in recent years."

Canada took part in the electoral mission of the Organization of American States that was sent to observe the conduct of the two rounds of voting. Canada also provided technical and financial assistance to several Dominican organizations involved in organizing the vote and in civic education.

Mr. Axworthy expressed the hope that Canada's good relations with the Dominican Republic, which hosts nearly 200 000 Canadian visitors each year and is an important destination for Canadian investment, would continue to become stronger during Mr. Fernandez's term as President.

- 30 -

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News Release

July 3, 1996

No. 122

CANADA RECOGNIZES THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada has recognized the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) under its interim name and has proposed the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

"Canada will continue to enhance and strengthen its relations with Balkan countries," said Mr. Axworthy. "In advancing our bilateral relations with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the promotion of human and minority rights will continue to be a priority."

The subject of FYROM's formal name is a matter of negotiation between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The two countries signed an interim agreement in September 1995 in New York addressing a number of other bilateral issues.

Relations with FYROM will be covered by the Canadian Embassy in Belgrade.

- 30 -

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News Release

July 3, 1996

No. 123

EGGLETON WELCOMES LUMBER GRADING DECISION BY JAPAN



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today welcomed the decision by Japan's Ministry of Construction to accept Canadian structural lumber graded by five Canadian grading authorities.

"This is a significant step forward in expanding Canadian markets in the Japanese construction industry," Mr. Eggleton said. "The Japanese government's decision shows what can be done when Canadian industry and government work closely together to develop export markets."

The Japanese Ministry of Construction will now permit Canadian structural lumber to be used in Japan's 2 x 4 housing construction industry without further grading to Japanese standards. This decision applies to lumber graded to the standards of National Lumber Grades Authority (NLGA) by the Canadian Mill Services Association, the Alberta Forest Products Association, the Cariboo Lumber Manufacturers Association, the Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association and the Northern Forest Products Association.

This development follows concerted efforts by Canada's Council of Forest Industries (COFI), representing the five Canadian organizations, and the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo to gain recognition from the Ministry of Construction for the Canadian grading standards.

Until now, lumber used in Japan's 2 x 4 housing market has had to be graded to the Japan Agricultural Standard (JAS). COFI-affiliated lumber and plywood mills have been in the forefront in securing JAS accreditation, and there are now over 50 JAS-accredited mills in Canada. Japanese consumers of high quality Canadian lumber will now have the option of specifying the Canadian NLGA or Japanese JAS standards when purchasing their lumber for use in 2 x 4 construction.



Japan built about 75 000 2 x 4 homes in 1995 and this total is expected to rise to 90 000 in 1996. About 80 per cent of the lumber used in these homes comes from Canada, virtually all of it from the five Canadian organizations covered by the Ministry of Construction decision. The value of these lumber exports to Canada is estimated at more than \$600 million annually.

The Ministry of Construction decision is part of the Japanese government's initiative to open up the Japanese construction industry to quality foreign construction products in an effort to lower housing construction costs. It follows two years of discussions between Canada and Japan on the mutual recognition of building product standards.

The housing construction sector is one of seven key sectors targeted by Canada in its Action Plan for Japan. Canadian exports of manufactured housing and finished building materials increased by more than 130 per cent in 1995 to more than \$131 million and Canada is now the leading supplier of manufactured housing to Japan. The adoption of the Canadian grades will further assist Canadian exports of manufactured housing to the burgeoning Japanese market.

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News Release

July 4, 1996

No. 124

PRESIDENT OF CATALONIA TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the President of the Autonomous Government of Catalonia in Spain, Mr. Jordi Pujol, will visit Canada from July 6 to 11.

A working visit is scheduled for July 8 in Ottawa, where Mr. Pujol will meet with Mr. Axworthy and the President of the Privy Council and Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs, Stéphane Dion.

"My discussions with President Pujol will focus mainly on economic, academic and cultural issues," said Mr. Axworthy.

While in Canada, President Pujol will be staying primarily in Montreal and Quebec City, where important events celebrating the arts and culture of Catalonia have been organized. These include exhibits of paintings, song recitals by Catalan artists and architectural shows.

"Catalonia is interested in the inventiveness and originality of Canadian culture and the many faces of Canadian reality, as evidenced by the opening of the University of Barcelona's Centre for Canadian Studies in April 1996," stated Mr. Axworthy.

In 1995, Canada imported \$75 million worth of goods from Catalonia and exported a total of \$98 million.

Catalonia has a population of about six million. The capital, Barcelona, is Spain's second-largest city.

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News Release

July 9, 1996

No. 125

AXWORTHY TO VISIT THAILAND, HONG KONG AND INDONESIA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will travel to Thailand and Hong Kong before going on to Indonesia where he will lead the Canadian delegation at meetings with the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN). The visit, which takes place from July 18 to July 25, will be his first to the region since becoming Minister.

"Southeast Asia is increasingly important to Canada both as a trading partner and as a partner in a whole range of regional security issues," said Mr. Axworthy. "We want to explore a number of opportunities for co-operation, building on the strong foundation established by Prime Minister Chrétien during the Team Canada visit in January 1996."

In Thailand, Mr. Axworthy will hold preparatory meetings with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Amnuay Viravan, leading up to the Team Canada mission to Thailand scheduled for early 1997.

Mr. Axworthy will travel to Hong Kong on July 21 where he will meet with Governor Christopher Patten prior to holding discussions with members of the Legislative Council and the Preparatory Committee. During his stay, he will also hold individual meetings with representatives of non-governmental organizations and with members of the Canadian business community on matters relating to the transition of Hong Kong.

"With 100 000 Canadians in Hong Kong, Canada has a keen interest in the progress toward the 1997 transition," said Mr. Axworthy.

Following his visit to Hong Kong, Mr. Axworthy will travel to Indonesia on July 22 for the third annual ASEAN Regional Forum and the subsequent Post-Ministerial Conference. Foreign Ministers of the seven ASEAN countries (Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines and Viet Nam) will meet with each of their nine dialogue partners (Canada,



Australia, Korea, Japan, New Zealand, the United States, the European Union, India and China) to discuss international political, security and economic issues. Canada has been an ASEAN dialogue partner since 1977.

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News Release

July 11, 1996

No. 126

EGGLETON TO ATTEND APEC TRADE MINISTERIAL MEETING AND VISIT NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH KOREA



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will attend the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum (APEC) Trade Ministerial Meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand, on July 15 and 16, and will visit New Zealand, Australia and South Korea from July 17 to 22.

APEC comprises 18 member economies and is dedicated to liberalizing and facilitating trade and investment, and developing economic co-operation, in the Asia Pacific region. Canada will chair the APEC process through 1997.

The meeting of APEC trade ministers was proposed by Prime Minister Chrétien at the meeting of APEC leaders in Osaka in November 1995. It will focus on what contributions APEC can make toward a successful outcome of the first Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to be held in Singapore in December 1996. Ministers will also review progress to date on the implementation of APEC's work program for further trade and investment liberalization.

"Canada is proud of the role we have played in initiating this APEC Trade Ministerial Meeting. It will help gather support for further trade liberalization, which is key to economic growth and job creation in Canada and the world. It will also help ensure that APEC's trade and investment liberalization agenda reinforces WTO objectives," said Mr. Eggleton.

From July 17 to 21, Mr. Eggleton will meet with representatives of New Zealand's and Australia's trade promotion organizations and business communities to promote trade and investment. He will also meet with New Zealand's Minister for Trade Negotiations, Philip Burdon, in Auckland, and Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade, Tim Fisher, in Canberra. Mr. Eggleton and Mr. Fisher will preside over the first meeting of the Consultative Group on Trade and Economic Co-operation, established by an arrangement between Canada and Australia signed last November.



In South Korea from July 22 to 23, Mr. Eggleton will be accompanied by a delegation of Canadian business representatives. He will meet in Seoul with Korea's Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Park Jae-Yoon, Minister of Science and Technology, Chung Kun-Mo, and senior Korean business executives to promote trade and investment. This visit will facilitate preparations for the upcoming Team Canada mission in 1997.

Exports to Asia Pacific continue to grow at unprecedented rates, increasing last year alone by 33 per cent, and have become an important component in the creation of jobs and growth in Canada. For example, exports to South Korea last year increased by 24 per cent, and this country is now the second-largest source of visitors to Canada after Japan.

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News Release

July 16, 1996

No. 127

CANADA ENCOURAGED BY U.S. PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON HELMS-BURTON ACT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew are encouraged by U.S. President Clinton's decision to suspend the right of U.S. companies to sue under the claims provisions of the Helms-Burton Act. The Ministers also reiterated Canadian concerns, however, about the continuing threat posed by the Act to Canadian interests.

"The President's decision to suspend the filing of legal claims is a move in the right direction," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada's strong leadership on this issue has built an international consensus that the United States cannot ignore. We will continue our work with other countries to convince the Americans to uphold the principles of international law."

"The President's decision reduces, for the time being, a significant threat to Canadian companies," said Mr. Eggleton. "This mitigates the impact of the Act but does not dispose of the issue. It still leaves a climate of uncertainty regarding future U.S. intentions. We need to maintain our concerted efforts with the international community, including with respect to other provisions in the Act, such as the continuing entry restrictions."

"Canada believes that a foreign policy of constructive engagement is the best approach for advancing political and economic reform in Cuba," said Mr. Pettigrew. "Although we share similar goals with the United States, we consider that measures such as the Helms-Burton Act are highly counter-productive."

The Ministers indicated that Canada will move ahead with changes to the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) so that it can be used by Canadian companies should the President's decision be reversed in the future. With regard to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Minister Eggleton will be



reassessing the situation in light of the President's decision. Under NAFTA dispute settlement procedures, the earliest date on which Canada could request a panel is July 29, 1996.

The President's decision means that the claims provisions of the Act will come into effect on August 1, 1996, but a claimant's right to sue under these same provisions will be suspended for a six-month period (with the possibility of renewal every six months). While this removes the immediate threat of lawsuits against Canadian companies, it will allow potential claimants to notify alleged "traffickers," and will also allow claimants to file claims without the normal 90-day waiting period should the President reverse his decision.

The claims provisions of the Helms-Burton Act would, if fully implemented, permit lawsuits to be launched in U.S. courts against Canadian and other foreign firms or individuals allegedly "trafficking" in property expropriated by Cuba that is claimed by American nationals. The right to file such claims has now been suspended by the President's decision. The Act also provides for restrictions on temporary entry into the United States of corporate officers and controlling shareholders of these companies, along with their spouses and minor children. The President does not have the authority to waive these provisions.

Canada has objected strongly to both the claims provisions and those relating to the denial of entry to the U.S. under the Act. In addition to pursuing the matter through NAFTA channels, Canada has been working vigorously with other countries to oppose the U.S. law in regional, hemispheric and multilateral forums, including by Prime Minister Chrétien at the recent G-7 Summit in Lyon, France.

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News Release

July 17, 1996

No. 128

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the following diplomatic appointments:

Serge April, Deputy High Commissioner in London, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Poland.

Peter Campbell, Director, Trade Commissioner Service Strategic Planning, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Consul General in Osaka, Japan.

Barry Carin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade and Economic Policy, and the G-7 Foreign Affairs Sous Sherpa, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes High Commissioner to the Republic of Singapore.

Susan M.W. Cartwright, Senior Departmental Assistant to the Minister for International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Slovenia.

Anne M. Charles, Special Negotiator for Environmental Military Issues, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes High Commissioner to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Daniel Livermore, Director of the Regional Security and Peacekeeping Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala.

Stuart McDowall, formerly Director, Agri-Food, Fisheries and Resources Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

J. Christopher Poole, formerly Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti.



Mark Romoff, Minister-Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, becomes Consul General in Buffalo, U.S.A.

Jon Swanson, Foreign Affairs Advisor to the Chairman of the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, becomes Consul General in Dallas, U.S.A.

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Biographical information on the appointees is attached.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Serge April (BA, Externat classique Saint-Jean Eudes, 1964; LLL, Laval University, 1967; called to the bar of Quebec, 1968; DES [Public Law], University of Ottawa, 1970), born in Quebec City, Quebec, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1968 and served abroad in Rome, Havana and in Paris with the Canadian delegation to the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development. From 1985 to 1988 he was Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal, and since 1992 he has served as Deputy High Commissioner in London. In Ottawa Mr. April held a number of positions, including Director, Economic Law and Treaty Division; Senior Advisor for Federal-Provincial Relations; and Director General of the Bureau of Legal Affairs. He is married to Suzanne Mercier and they have two children. Mr. April succeeds Ms. Anne Leahy.

Peter Campbell (BSc [Metallurgical Engineering], Queen's University, 1969), born in Calgary, Alberta, joined the Trade Commissioner Service in 1969. He served abroad in Tokyo, Dusseldorf, Sydney and in Brussels with the Canadian Mission to the European Communities. In Ottawa he has held a number of positions, including Director Japan Trade Development Division; and Director, Services Industries and Transportation Division. Since 1995 he has been Director, Trade Commissioner Service Strategic Planning. He is married to Yoko Campbell and they have two children. Mr. Campbell succeeds Ms. Margaret Huber.

Barry Carin (BA [Economics and Political Science], McGill University, 1967; PhD [Economics], Brown University, 1972), born in Montreal, Quebec, joined the Treasury Board Secretariat in 1971 and was Director of Evaluation from 1974 to 1977. From 1978 to 1980 he was Associate Professor, School of Public Administration, University of Victoria, and undertook several assignments for the Government of British Columbia. In May 1980 he was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister for Program Delivery at the Ministry of State for Social Development. In 1982, he was Senior Advisor for the Beaufort Sea study undertaken for the Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Indian and Northern Affairs. In September 1982, Mr. Carin returned to the Ministry of State for Social Development as Deputy Secretary, Income Support and Transfer Payments. In 1984 he was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Planning, with Employment and Immigration Canada. In 1992 Mr. Carin joined the Department of External Affairs and International Trade as Assistant Deputy Minister, Economic Policy and Trade Competitiveness. Since 1993, he has been Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade and Economic Policy and the G-7 Foreign Affairs Sous-Sherpa. He is married to Anne Carin and they have four children. Mr. Carin succeeds Mr. Gavin Stewart.

Susan M.W. Cartwright (BA, University of Victoria, 1979; MA, University of Waterloo, 1980), born in Bistroff, France, joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1981 and served abroad as a Trade Commissioner in Nairobi, Melbourne, Lagos and, from 1990 to 1993, as Consul and Trade Commissioner in Bombay. In Ottawa Ms. Cartwright served in the Resource Planning and Management Secretariat, and since 1994 she has been Senior Departmental Assistant to the Minister for International Trade. She is married to Nick Daniel. Ms. Cartwright succeeds Mr. Rodney Irwin.

Anne M. Charles (BA [English], University of Toronto, 1967; MA [Political Science], University of Toronto, 1969), was born in Victoria, British Columbia, grew up in St. John's, Newfoundland, and was educated in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario and British Columbia. She joined the Trade Commissioner Service in June 1972 and served abroad in Sydney, Bogotá, Belgrade and Dallas. From 1988 to 1990 she was Ambassador to Peru, with concurrent accreditation to Bolivia, and from 1990 to 1994 she was Consul General in Detroit, Michigan, with responsibility for Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky. In Ottawa, Ms. Charles has worked in International Economic Relations with the Department of Finance and in Industrial Trade Policy with the Department of External Affairs, and in Vancouver, with the Office of the Federal Economic Development Co-ordinator. Since 1995, she has been the Special Negotiator for Environmental Military Issues. Ms. Charles succeeds Mr. Art Wright.

Daniel Livermore (BA, Brock University, 1969; MA, Carleton University, 1970; PhD, Queen's University, 1975), born in St. Catharines, Ontario, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1975. He served abroad in New York, Santiago and in Washington, where he was Minister-Counsellor from 1990 to 1991. In Ottawa he has held a number of positions, including Director, Human Rights and Social Affairs Division; and Director of Policy Planning. In 1993/1994 he served as Foreign Service Visitor at Queen's University. Since 1994 he has been Director, Regional Security and Peacekeeping Division. He is married to Leslie Maitland and they have three children. Mr. Livermore succeeds Mr. James Fox.

Stuart McDowall (BSc [Civil Engineering], University of Alberta, 1962; International Management Course, University of Western Ontario School of Business Administration, 1981), born in Pincher Creek, Alberta, joined the Trade Commissioner Service in 1962. He served abroad in Johannesburg, New York, Beirut, Havana, Stockholm, Bogotá and Athens. In Ottawa Mr. McDowall has held a number of positions, including Director, Prosperity Secretariat; and Director, Agri-Food, Fisheries and Resources Division. He is married to Irene McDowall and they have three children. Mr. McDowall is the first resident Canadian Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

J. Christopher Poole (BA [Honours Economics], University of British Columbia, 1966; MA, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy [Tufts and Harvard Universities], 1967), born in Ottawa, Ontario, joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1967 and served abroad in Brussels, Abidjan and Bucharest. From 1982 to 1987, Mr. Poole was Deputy Consul General and Senior Trade Commissioner in San Francisco, and served briefly as Ambassador to Iraq. Since 1992, he has been Ambassador to the State of Kuwait with concurrent accreditation to four other Gulf States. In Canada, he held a number of positions, including Vice-President of the Canadian Commercial Corporation and Member of the Strategic Planning Department of MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. From 1987 to 1990, Mr. Poole undertook a secondment to the Government of British Columbia as Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for export marketing, and in 1992 he was Director General, Grains Marketing Bureau, with Agriculture Canada. He is married to Linda Nelson. Mr. Poole succeeds Mr. Francis Filleul.

Mark Romoff (BSc [Mathematics], McGill University, 1970; MSc [Management Science], University of Waterloo, 1972), born in Montreal, Quebec, joined the Department of Regional Economic Expansion in 1972, serving in various positions including Chief, Program Analysis Branch, and later moved to the Treasury Board Secretariat as a Senior Policy Officer. He joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1978 and served abroad in Lagos, Mexico City and Kuala Lumpur. In Ottawa Mr. Romoff was Senior Advisor, Resource Planning and Management Secretariat, from 1989 to 1992. Since 1992 he has been Minister-Counsellor in the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo. He is married to Shelley Romoff and they have one child. Mr. Romoff succeeds Mr. Robert Mackenzie.

Jon Swanson (BA [Psychology], 1961; Certificate [Personnel Administration, Industrial Relations], 1963, University of Manitoba), born in Montreal, Quebec, joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1968 and served abroad as a Trade Commissioner in Hong Kong, Stockholm, London and Manila. From 1990 to 1994 Mr. Swanson was Minister (Economic/Commercial) in the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo. In Ottawa he has held a number of positions, including Director General, Export Development Programs and Services Bureau; President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Council for International Business; and since 1995 he has been Foreign Affairs Advisor to the Chairman of the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission. He is married to Celine Fittes and has three children. Mr. Swanson succeeds Mr. Edward Gibson.

News Release

July 19, 1996

No. 129

CHAN TO VISIT VIET NAM AND MALAYSIA AND LEAD TRADE MISSION



The Honourable Raymond Chan, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific), will visit Viet Nam and Malaysia between July 23 and August 2 to enhance Canada's political, trade and sustainable development ties with these countries.

Leading a delegation of 17 Canadian companies, Mr. Chan will also meet with city planners and officials to promote Canadian involvement in projects in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, as well as Penang and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

"Canada is developing a full economic partnership with Malaysia with emphasis in the environment, forestry, infrastructure, power, aerospace and education sectors," Mr. Chan said. "We are also committed to working with Viet Nam as it develops policies, institutions and programs that foster social development, economic growth and environmental protection.

"Canada has a lot to offer both Viet Nam and Malaysia in goods, technology and expertise to further sustainable development."

In Hanoi from July 23 to 25, Mr. Chan will meet Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai, Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment Dang Huu, Minister of Transport and Communications Bui Danh Luu and Minister of Construction Ngo Xuan Loc.

In Ho Chi Minh City on July 26, Mr. Chan will meet senior representatives of the city's People's Committee and the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He will also tour the Thuan An Centre for the deaf and mute, which received playground equipment donated by the Richmond Senior Secondary School.

In Langkawi, Malaysia, from July 27 to 31, Mr. Chan will represent Canada at the Langkawi International Dialogue, an initiative of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir. He will deliver a statement on the role of government in stimulating partnerships between the public and private sectors. This forum will include



representatives from government, banks, financial institutions, large manufacturing industries and multinationals from various countries.

In Penang on August 1, Mr. Chan will meet with Chief Minister Koh Tsu Koon and representatives of the Penang Development Corporation. He will deliver a keynote address to representatives of Penang's Chambers of Commerce and business development associations. In Kuala Lumpur on August 2, Mr. Chan will visit the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers.

Merchandise trade between Canada and Viet Nam and between Canada and Malaysia continues to grow at impressive rates. Two-way trade with Viet Nam was \$110 million in 1995, up from \$60 million in 1994 and \$42 million in 1993. Exports last year alone grew by 30 per cent to \$34 million. Two-way trade with Malaysia exceeded \$2 billion in 1995, with exports increasing 95 per cent to \$571 million.

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A list of the Canadian companies accompanying Mr. Chan to Viet Nam and Malaysia is attached.

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**VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE RAYMOND CHAN,
SECRETARY OF STATE (ASIA-PACIFIC),
TO VIET NAM AND MALAYSIA
JULY 23-AUGUST 2, 1996**

BUSINESS DELEGATION

Babcock & Wilcox
Cambridge, Ontario

Certified General Accountants
Association of Canada
Vancouver, British Columbia

Dessau Group
Laval, Quebec

Experco Ltd.
Drummondville, Quebec

Hatfield Consultants Ltd.
West Vancouver, British
Columbia

Hydrosult Inc.
Montreal, Quebec

Interlink Group
Vancouver, British Columbia

Les Consultants LBCD
International Division
Valleyfield, Quebec

Lockheed Martin Canada
Kanata, Ontario

London Life International
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

MacDonald Dettwiler &
Associates Ltd.
Richmond, British Columbia

Ontario Hydro International
Inc.
Toronto, Ontario

Pizza Pizza International
Toronto, Ontario

Ritafull Holdings Ltd.
Vancouver, British Columbia

SNC Lavalin International Inc.
Montreal, Quebec

Vietnam Canada Trade Council
Ottawa, Ontario

Winterhawk Developments
Calgary, Alberta

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GA
C 55

News Release

July 23, 1996

No. 130

EGGLETON TO VISIT LOS ANGELES

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will visit Los Angeles, California, on July 23 and 24 to promote Canadian business interests.

During his visit, Mr. Eggleton will meet with the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce's executive committee, the *Los Angeles Times*' editorial board and with representatives of the Motion Picture Association and L.A.-based Canadian film and television company executives.

"These meetings are important opportunities to provide insight into Canadian trade policies and priorities and explore ways of increasing trade and investment between Canada and California," Mr. Eggleton said.

Canada and California have developed extensive ties in many sectors, including culture, energy, transportation and tourism. Canadian exports, excluding \$1.12 billion in sales of natural gas, were valued at \$8.9 billion in 1995, with two-way trade amounting to \$17.8 billion.

Mr. Eggleton is visiting Los Angeles upon his return from the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Trade Ministerial Meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand, on July 15 and 16, and his visits to New Zealand, Australia and South Korea from July 17 to 22.

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News Release

July 25, 1996

No. 131

CANADA DEPLORES MILITARY TAKE-OVER IN BURUNDI

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew today deplored the military take-over of the government in Burundi and called for the restoration of democratic and political institutions. In addition, the Ministers condemned recent violent attacks on innocent civilians in Burundi.

"Such action offers no solution to Burundi's long-term problems. These can be addressed only by adopting a new political arrangement which embodies democratic principles and respects minority rights. Canada fully supports ongoing efforts by Burundi's neighbouring countries and the Security Council to promote effective negotiations among all concerned Burundian parties," stated Mr. Axworthy.

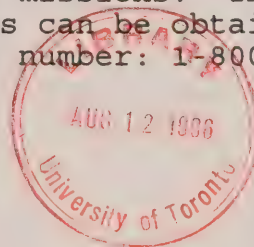
In recent months, Canada has played a key role in international efforts to bring better co-ordination to post-conflict development in Burundi. In June, Mr. Pettigrew brought together the international donor community with the Burundians to initiate discussion on a transitional plan to be put in place once peace has been restored.

"Canada will maintain its leadership role in trying to find a peaceful resolution to this crisis. We will remain actively engaged until a stable political climate and security have been restored," stated Mr. Pettigrew.

Approximately \$14 million in humanitarian aid to Burundi has been disbursed by the Canadian International Development Agency since the crisis began in 1993.

The safety of Canadians is of prime concern. Canadians residing in Burundi are linked to the Canadian High Commission in Nairobi through a radio-equipped warden network. Their security is being monitored closely with resident foreign missions. Information about Canadian family members or friends can be obtained by calling the following 24-hour toll-free number: 1-800-267-6788.

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News Release

July 26, 1996

No. 132



MINISTERS AXWORTHY AND STEWART TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TERRORISM

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Revenue Minister Jane Stewart will represent Canada at the P-8 Ministerial Conference on terrorism, which will be held in Paris on July 30. The leaders of the P-8 countries (the G-7 plus Russia) agreed to this meeting during the G-7 Summit in Lyon in June. It will provide governments with the opportunity to consider and recommend further actions in the fight against international terrorism. The Paris Conference will build upon the work of the Ottawa Ministerial on terrorism, held in December 1995, and the Summit of the Peacemakers, held in Sharm el Sheik, Egypt, in March 1996.

"We intend to pursue an international consensus on an effective offensive against terrorism, consistent with human rights and the rule of law," Mr. Axworthy said. "While much has been accomplished at previous conferences on terrorism, there are a number of areas where improvements could be achieved, including enhanced information-sharing and the re-examination of existing conventions against specific terrorist acts to determine if there are gaps that need to be filled."

Revenue Canada customs officers play a critical role at the Canadian border. The department has initiated an aggressive strategy to introduce high technology and equipment at the border to streamline customs and immigration processing for low-risk travellers and commercial shipments. This allows Revenue Canada to focus its resources on high-risk threats to Canada's borders.

"My aim is to create a 'smart border' that is responsive to the needs of the majority of honest travellers and importers while ensuring that Canadians continue to enjoy safe homes and safe streets," Mrs. Stewart said. "The Government hopes to see progress at this meeting that includes further international action to curb funding of terrorist groups and the denial of sanctuary to terrorists."



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Canada has long taken a strong stand in the fight against terrorism. Canada has worked with the Economic Summit countries on terrorism issues for almost 20 years and has signed all 11 of the international conventions targeting specific terrorist acts. The guidelines for action set out in the Ottawa Declaration will provide the foundation for the work of the Paris Ministerial.

- 30 -

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News Release

July 26, 1996

No. 133

CANADA TO SUPPORT PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF LEBANON

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the creation of a liaison and advisory group to assist Canada's efforts in the reconstruction of Lebanon, and the appointment of Member of Parliament Mac Harb as chairman of the group.

The liaison and advisory group, which will include representatives from both the public and private sectors, will seek public input to develop an action plan to mobilize Canadian business efforts in the reconstruction of Lebanon. The group will report to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

"This advisory group will contribute significantly to Canada's participation in the reconstruction of Lebanon while enabling the Canadian private sector to pursue new business opportunities in the region," said Mr. Axworthy. "I am pleased that Mac Harb will chair the group and bring his skill and personal knowledge of the region to this important initiative."

In addition, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will establish a project database for Lebanon and provide a mechanism to match Canadian capabilities with Lebanese needs. A bulletin board and an Internet home page will provide better access to information on Canada-Lebanon business opportunities.

Canada's commitment to the reconstruction of Lebanon reinforces its long-standing support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon, in conformity with UN Security Council Resolution 425, and with the Taif Accord of 1989. Canada believes the full extension of Lebanese government authority over its territory is essential to peace and stability in the region.

- 30 -

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News Release

July 29, 1996

No. 134

CANADA DEPLORES CHINESE NUCLEAR TEST

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today deplored the Chinese nuclear weapons test explosion carried out on July 29.

"Canada is deeply disappointed that China felt compelled to test yet again. However, we hope that what we witnessed today is the world's last nuclear test. In this regard, we welcome China's announcement that it will now put in place a moratorium on nuclear testing," said Mr. Axworthy.

"We call on China, the other nuclear weapon states and all countries involved in current negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva to summon a sense of international responsibility and to move quickly to ensure the conclusion of a treaty that will ban all nuclear testing for all time," said the Minister. He encouraged the Conference participants to accept the text now under consideration. "We expect the nuclear weapon states to be among the first to ratify the Treaty. In this way, the CTBT will make a major contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation," added Mr. Axworthy.

Canada is working to bring the CTBT negotiations to an early, successful conclusion, with the aim of having the entire global community join together to sign the Treaty this September. A CTBT to ban all nuclear weapons tests, in all environments for all time, has been a long-standing Canadian foreign policy priority.

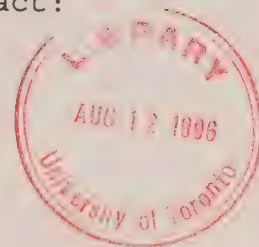
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News Release

July 31, 1996

No. 135

CANADA AND ISRAEL SIGN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, and the Minister of Industry and Trade of the State of Israel, Natan Sharansky, today signed the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.

"This agreement symbolizes the direction Canada is taking to further liberalize trade in order to stimulate exports and, in turn, create jobs for Canadians," said Mr. Eggleton. "It will put Canadian exporters on an equal footing with their U.S. and European competitors, who have had the benefit of free trade agreements with Israel."

The following are the main elements of improved market access in the Agreement:

- Tariffs will be removed from industrial products of Canadian or Israeli origin beginning January 1, 1997. Only women's swimwear, at Canada's request, and certain cotton fabric, at Israel's request, will continue to be subject to tariffs, although these tariffs will be phased out over the first two and a half years.
- Duty-free access or low duties will be applied to a variety of agricultural and fisheries products exported by both countries. For Canada, such items include grains, grain products, beef, maple sugar, alcoholic beverages and various processed foods. Both sides have excluded dairy, poultry and egg products. Renewed discussions are to be held within two years, however, with the aim of further liberalizing agri-food trade.

To resolve any disputes under the Agreement, both countries have agreed to be governed by a binding dispute settlement process.

The next step will be to initiate the implementation process on each side, including the passage of any necessary legislation. If the implementation process is complete on both sides by the end of this year, the Agreement will take effect January 1, 1997.



It is Canada's intention to extend the same benefits to the Palestinians that Israel will enjoy under the Free Trade Agreement. We are examining ways to achieve this with the Palestinian Authority.

In support of this new agreement, both ministers also announced the formation of a business advisory group to function within the Canada-Israel Joint Economic Commission. The mandate of the new group is to produce innovative approaches to stimulate business and to provide advice to the two governments on trade issues.

Additional information on the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement is available through the Internet under "international business development" at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> or through FaxLink at (613) 944-4500. Information is also available upon request through the InfoCentre by telephone at (613) 944-4000 and by fax at (613) 996-9709.

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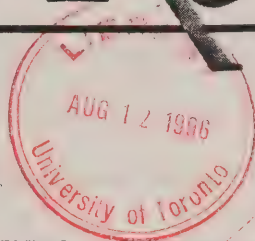
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News Release

August 1, 1996

No. 136



CANADA APPOINTS FIRST PERMANENT OBSERVER TO COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today appointed Réjean Frenette, Canada's Ambassador to Switzerland, as Canada's first Permanent Observer to the Council of Europe (COE).

"Having a permanent observer will enable Canada to strengthen its relations with the Council in all areas, ranging from human rights and legal affairs to culture, education, environment, public health, social issues and sports," said Mr. Axworthy.

Observer status allows Canada to appoint a permanent observer to attend meetings of ministers' representatives, and as well to send observers to committees of experts and to conferences of specialized ministers. Mr. Axworthy received official notification of the Council's decision to grant observer status to Canada in June.

The Council's membership comprises almost all European countries, including Russia. Observer status has been granted only to Canada and the United States. Canada has established close links with the Council of Europe over the years. For example, Canadian government representatives regularly attend meetings concerning Council of Europe programs for co-operation and assistance in Central and Eastern Europe, notably with regard to Russia.

"The Council of Europe is a vital part of the European political structure, and Canada is proud to have received acknowledgment from the 39 member states of its deeply rooted commitment to security, democracy and human rights in Europe," concluded Mr. Axworthy.

- 30 -

A backgrounder on the Council of Europe is attached.



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Backgrounder

THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The Council of Europe was founded in 1949. It is the largest of the exclusively European institutions, representing 39 member countries. Its headquarters are in Strasbourg, France.

The Council of Europe performs various roles, notably in providing:

- a focus for the unity of democratic Europe, by bringing together the 15 members of the European Union with other democratic countries;
- a major forum for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- the means for bringing together parliamentarians from member countries,
- a framework for intergovernmental activities in such diverse fields as legal co-operation, culture, education, sports, social affairs, environment, communications, health and youth; and, more recently,
- a forum for developing closer co-operation between the countries of Eastern, Central and Western Europe.

According to the Statute of the Council of Europe, membership is open to any democratic European state that accepts the principles of the rule of law and the enjoyment by all persons within its jurisdiction of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Resolution (93)26, adopted by the Committee of Ministers in May 1993, allowed any state (including non-European states) willing to accept the principles of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and wishing to co-operate with the Council of Europe, to be granted observer status.

The main instruments of the Council of Europe are the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly, the European Commission of Human Rights and the European Court of Human Rights. Member countries of the Council of Europe are expected to sign the European Convention of Human Rights, a legally enforceable document.

News Release

August 6, 1996

No. 137

CANADA OBJECTS TO IRAN/LIBYA SANCTIONS LEGISLATION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton have expressed their strong objection to the U.S. Iran/Libya sanctions legislation signed yesterday by President Clinton. Canada is concerned that the Act allows the United States to take unilateral trade measures against third parties trading or investing in Iran or Libya, including, potentially, Canadian companies.

"While we share the concerns of the United States and other countries on international terrorism and place a high priority on finding ways to combat it, this is not the way to proceed," said Mr. Axworthy. "As with the Helms-Burton law, Canada continues to object to unilateral measures that have extraterritorial effects; this legislation is an inappropriate response to U.S. concerns."

"The extraterritorial effects of this latest act represent once again an attempt by the United States to dictate trade policy to its allies," said Mr. Eggleton. "Canada will continue to defend its interests against the extraterritorial application of such legislation."

The Ministers indicated that Canada would be consulting on this matter with the European Union and other allies to determine how best to address the extraterritorial impact of the Act.

Canada takes strict measures through export controls to ensure that its trade will not contribute to the military capabilities, including any possible nuclear, biological or chemical weapons capabilities, of Iran or Libya.



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Canada fully supports United Nations sanctions against Libya. "Trade sanctions are most effective when carried out through a multilateral forum," said Mr. Axworthy.

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A backgrounder is attached.

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Backgrounder

U.S. IRAN AND LIBYA SANCTIONS ACT OF 1996

Background

On July 23, the U.S. Congress unanimously adopted the "Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996." The Act is an amended version of a bill first introduced in May 1995 by Senator Alfonse D'Amato (Republican-N.Y.). Senator Edward Kennedy (Democrat-Mass.) introduced an amendment that toughened the sanctions against Libya - in effect making mandatory some of the proposed sanctions that were previously optional. The President signed the bill into law on August 5.

Intention of Legislation

The intention of the legislation is to dissuade companies from making significant investments in the Iranian and Libyan oil and gas sectors. U.S. companies are already prohibited from trading with, and investing in, Iran by an Executive Order passed in May 1995. Libya is currently the subject of UN sanctions. The oil and gas sectors have been targeted because they are the economic "lifeblood" of those countries. The stated policy of the Act is:

- For Iran: to "deny the ability to support acts of international terrorism and to fund the development and acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them."
- For Libya: to "seek full compliance by Libya with its obligations under Resolutions 731, 748, and 883 of the Security Council of the United Nations, including ending all support for acts of international terrorism and efforts to develop or acquire weapons of mass destruction."

(The above resolutions deal with Libya's failure to co-operate with a UN investigation of the destruction of Pan Am flight 103 and with related sanctions placed on Libya.)

Activities that Will Trigger Sanctions

The following activities will trigger sanctions under the Act:

- For Iran: New investments in any 12-month period totalling more than US\$40 million (or any

US\$40 million) that directly and significantly contribute to Iran's ability to develop its oil and gas resources.

- For Libya: New investments in any 12-month period totalling more than US\$40 million (or any combination of investments of at least US\$10 million each that equals or exceeds US\$40 million) that contribute to Libya's ability to develop its oil and gas resources.

Exports of goods and technology that are prohibited by UN resolutions and would

- (a) contribute to Libya's ability to acquire nuclear, chemical or biological weapons,
- (b) contribute to Libya's ability to develop its oil and gas resources or (c) contribute to Libya's aviation capabilities.

Type of Sanctions to be Imposed

If the President determines that a company or person has knowingly violated the Act on or after the date of enactment, he must impose at least two of the following sanctions:

- denial of Export-Import Bank assistance for exports;
- denial of U.S. export licences;
- prohibitions on U.S. financial institutions providing major loans or credits to a sanctioned person or company;
- for financial institutions, the denial of the right to serve as an agent of the U.S. government, repository of its funds, or as a primary dealer of its debt instruments;
- denial of access to U.S. government procurement contracts where this is not inconsistent with World Trade Organization (WTO) obligations;
- for companies, restriction of their exports to the U.S.

Companies (including parents, subsidiaries or successor entities) with knowledge of prohibited activities would also be subject to sanctions. The legislation does not apply to contracts entered into before the date of enactment. The definition of investment does not include loans or financing through debt instruments.

Presidential Discretion

The President has considerable discretion in administering the Act:

- The President makes the initial determination that a company has knowingly violated the Act.
- The President can waive sanctions if he determines it is in

the national interest of the United States. He could use this waiver to avoid violating international trade obligations.

- The Act urges the President to conduct multilateral negotiations for sanctions against Iran; after a year the President will determine whether negotiations have been successful in achieving the objectives of the Act and will report back to Congress.
- The President may remove the nationals of any country or countries from the Act's provisions if the country "has agreed to undertake substantial measures, including economic sanctions, that will inhibit Iran's efforts" to acquire weapons of mass destruction and support international terrorism. If the company violating the Act is non-American, the President may consult with that company's government before imposing sanctions.
- The President can also terminate sanctions upon a determination that the triggering activities have ceased and will not be resumed.

Other Factors to be Considered in the Administration of the Act

Sanctions are not always automatic; for example, there are exceptions for goods and services that are essential to U.S. national security.

Companies can ask the U.S. Secretary of State to indicate whether their proposed activities would result in sanctions. Approved activities would not then be subject to sanctions.

For Iran, the size of the investment that would trigger sanctions drops to US\$20 million a year for companies whose home countries the United States has deemed have not made enough progress in implementing sanctions against Iran.

Duration of Sanctions

Sanctions remain in effect for up to two years, or until the President determines and certifies to Congress that the person or company is no longer violating the Act. Sanctions cannot be applied for less than one year.

The Act expires after five years.

News Release

August 8, 1996

No. 138

CANADA SUPPORTS ARUSHA DECLARATION ON BURUNDI

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew today expressed support for the Arusha Declaration. The Declaration was made by the Heads of State and of Government of Central Africa's Great Lakes region at the end of the second subregional summit on Burundi, held July 31 in Arusha, Tanzania. The Ministers also gave their support to the resolutions and undertakings made during the course of the Summit, with the aim of restoring peace and security in Burundi.

"The firm, courageous stand taken by the region's Heads of State and of Government in favour of an immediate return to constitutional order and democratic process in Burundi has earned our admiration and our full support," said Mr. Axworthy.

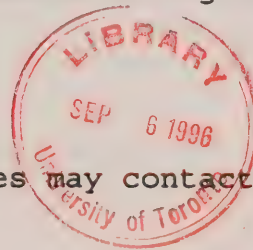
The July 31 Declaration calls on Burundi's current regime to restore the National Assembly and political parties. The countries taking part in the Summit also agreed to impose economic sanctions on Burundi in order to encourage all the warring elements, including the armed parties and factions within and outside the country, to meet at the negotiating table.

"Canada stands ready, with other donors, to support reconstruction in Burundi, but there must be stability and peace for this effort to succeed," said Mr. Pettigrew. "The first step is negotiations, and we join the region's leaders in urging that peace talks take place immediately."

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News Release

August 8, 1996

No. 139

LLOYD AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES GRANT TO SHOWCASE THE ACADIAN CULTURE IN FRANCE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that his department will make a contribution of \$25 000 to the Société nationale de l'Acadie to organize a major event promoting Acadian culture in Andrézieux-Bouthéon, a town in the Rhône-Alpes region of France. The event will take place September 30 to October 6.

"Culture is a key element of our foreign policy and an important instrument for the establishment and maintenance of our international relations," said Mr. Axworthy.

A delegation consisting of some 60 artists and craftspeople from various Acadian communities in the four Atlantic provinces and representatives of federal and provincial government departments has been selected to showcase the culture, food (including seafood and maple products) and tourist attractions of Acadia.

The central attraction of this cultural event is the second Festival de l'été indien, organized by the Association culturelle du Théâtre of Andrézieux-Bouthéon. The festival's theme is the Francophone community, the shared history and friendship among Acadians from Canada's Atlantic provinces, the Saint-Pierre and Miquelon archipelago and the Forez region, in the Massif Central of France. Participants include Le Groupe Barachois (Prince Edward Island); the duo of Bernard Félix and Normand Formanger (Newfoundland and Labrador); La Baie en Joie dance company and Monique Leblanc (Nova Scotia); Les Méchants Maquereaux, the Barbara Ann Quigley ensemble, and the duo of Roland Gauvin and Johnny Comeau (New Brunswick); and Le Théâtre de L'Escaouette and Henri Lafitte (Saint-Pierre and Miquelon).

The Canadian delegation will also take the opportunity to examine market opportunities in this part of France.



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"The Rhône-Alpes region is experiencing considerable economic growth, and we are confident that the Acadian community will be able to position itself to take advantage of the future possibilities of this new market," said Mr. Axworthy.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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News Release

August 14, 1996

No. 140

CANADA TO HOST ARCTIC COUNCIL INAUGURATION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Ronald A. Irwin and Environment Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that the eight Arctic states have agreed to a Declaration on the establishment of an Arctic Council. Canada will host the inauguration of the Council in Ottawa on September 19.

"Canada is a key player in circumpolar affairs, and the Arctic Council is very much a Canadian initiative," said Mr. Axworthy. "The Council represents the culmination of many years' work to create a high-level international forum dedicated to the broad issues of concern to this vital region. The Canadian government has committed to accord greater priority to circumpolar co-operation, and today we are delivering on that commitment."

"Aboriginal people in Canada and the other member countries have played a special role in the negotiations leading to the creation of the Arctic Council," said Minister Irwin. "Their contributions are being recognized and we look forward to their active involvement as Permanent Participants in the Arctic Council."

The inauguration ceremony will feature the signing of the Arctic Council Declaration, which has been negotiated over the last year. The Declaration outlines the Arctic Council's mandate to oversee a range of issues affecting the region, including environmental protection, economic and social development, improved health conditions and cultural well-being.

As Canada's Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs, Mary Simon will be the senior official responsible for co-ordination and liaison with the Arctic Council. In addition to Canada, the members of the Arctic Council are Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States. Through Permanent Participant status, the Council will provide for the meaningful involvement of Indigenous peoples of the circumpolar North in its deliberations and work. Initial Permanent Participants will be the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council and the Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation.



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Canada will chair the Arctic Council for the initial two-year period, 1996-1998, during which time the Council's Secretariat will be located in Ottawa.

- 30 -

A backgrounder is attached.

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Backgrounder

The creation of an Arctic Council composed of the eight Arctic states was proposed formally by the Canadian government in 1989, although the concept dates back at least two decades. In April 1994, the Honourable André Ouellet stated Canada's commitment to reinvigorate the Arctic Council initiative, as part of the government's foreign policy platform.

In keeping with the priority it places on the establishment of an Arctic Council, Canada appointed an Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs, Mary Simon, on October 31, 1994.

In June 1995, officials of the eight Arctic countries began extensive discussions regarding the structure, objectives and programs of the proposed Council. At their last meeting in Ottawa on August 5 and 6, 1996, the Arctic countries' Senior Arctic Officials finalized the text of the Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council for ministerial approval.

The Arctic Council will be established as a high-level permanent intergovernmental forum to provide for co-operation, co-ordination and interaction among the Arctic states, the Arctic Indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues. This includes significant issues that go beyond environmental protection to include economic and social development, improved health conditions and cultural well-being. It is worth noting that the Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council ensures the balance between sustainable development and environmental protection.

The members of the Arctic Council are Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States (the Arctic states). In addition, Permanent Participant status will provide for the meaningful involvement of Indigenous peoples in the deliberations and work of the Council. At the initial stage, Permanent Participants will include the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council, and Russia's Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East, which represent the majority of Arctic Indigenous people.

The Council, which will operate on the basis of consensus of its members, will meet at the ministerial level biannually. The Chair and Secretariat of the Council will rotate concurrently every two years among the eight Arctic states, beginning with Canada in 1996.

The main activities of the Council will focus on the existing programs established under the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS) and a new sustainable development program dealing with economic, social and cultural issues.

News Release

August 15, 1996

No. 141

AXWORTHY EXPRESSES CANADA'S DISAPPOINTMENT WITH INDIA'S POSITION ON THE CTBT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed regret that India has decided to block final agreement on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) negotiations now taking place at the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva.

"We are deeply disappointed that India has decided to block the treaty in the CD. Although Canada wanted more reference to disarmament and a treaty that would enter into force quickly, we believe it is the best compromise that could be achieved. This treaty will bring the permanent end to nuclear testing that the world has been seeking for 40 years."

India objects to the current text and has insisted that it will not sign the treaty as it currently stands. Recently, however, India has taken the additional step of blocking consensus in the CD, and in doing so has prevented the treaty from being forwarded to the United Nations General Assembly for formal approval.

"Canada has a long-standing commitment to nuclear disarmament," said Mr. Axworthy. "Further progress on this issue starts with the CTBT, and we will continue to devote every effort to see it through to a successful conclusion."

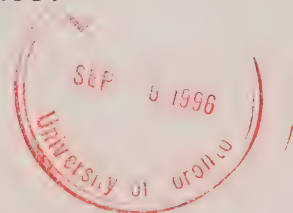
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News Release

August 16, 1996

No. 142

CANADA DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER VIOLENT CLASHES IN CYPRUS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed deep concern over the violent clashes that took place in Cyprus on August 11 and 14 in the United Nations-controlled buffer zone between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot sectors.

"Canada is particularly troubled by these latest events, which resulted in the death of two Greek Cypriots and injured many others in the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities, as well as UN peacekeepers," stated Mr. Axworthy. "I appeal to the two parties to take all necessary measures to prevent further violence and to resume talks aimed at finding a permanent resolution to this conflict."

Canada participated in UN peacekeeping operations in Cyprus for 29 years, and continues to support UN efforts toward establishing peace and security on the island. Canada supports all measures, consistent with relevant Security Council resolutions, leading to the demilitarization of Cyprus as a possible avenue for the peaceful resolution of the Cypriot conflict.

- 30 -

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News Release

August 20, 1996

No. 143

CANADA DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER CONTINUED UNREST IN CHECHNYA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed deep concern over the continuing violence in the Russian Republic of Chechnya, and called on all parties to agree to an immediate and lasting cease-fire.

"The high toll the fighting has exacted on civilians is of particular concern to Canada. We urge both sides to spare no effort in protecting their safety," stated Mr. Axworthy. "We appeal to the parties to continue the negotiations that began last week and to seek an end to the fighting."

Mr. Axworthy urged the Government of the Russian Federation and the Chechen rebel leadership to employ the good offices of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Assistance Group in Grozny to negotiate a permanent and peaceful end to the fighting. The OSCE Assistance Group constitutes an important instrument in the search for peace and the respect for human rights, and Mr. Axworthy pressed the warring parties to ensure the safety of its members.

Finally, the Minister requested that international humanitarian assistance groups be granted full access to the region in order to relieve the suffering of civilians.

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News Release

August 21, 1996

No. 144

CANADA CONGRATULATES UKRAINE ON FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INDEPENDENCE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today extended congratulations to Ukraine on the fifth anniversary of its independence, declared on August 24, 1991.

"Canada is proud to have supported Ukraine's transformation since gaining independence," stated Mr. Axworthy. "We are pleased to celebrate Ukraine's fifth anniversary of independence and its success in implementing its political and economic reform. Canada looks forward to an even closer relationship with Ukraine in the years ahead."

The Honourable Gildas Molgat, Speaker of the Senate, will represent Canada at the independence day celebrations in Kyiv, to be held August 22-24. While in Kyiv, Senator Molgat will also meet with President Leonid Kuchma, with the Speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament, Oleksandr Moroz, and with the Ukrainian Foreign Minister, Hennadiy Udovenko.

Minister Axworthy plans to travel to Ukraine this fall to head a business delegation for the inaugural Canada-Ukraine Intergovernmental Economic Commission and to foster closer bilateral links with Ukraine.

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News Release

August 22, 1996

No. 145

AXWORTHY AND FRY TO ATTEND WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will head Canada's delegation to the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Stockholm, Sweden, August 27-31, 1996. Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women) Hedy Fry will assume the role of alternate head of the Canadian delegation. Senator Landon Pearson, Minister Axworthy's Special Advisor on Children's Issues, and Paddy Torsney, Member of Parliament for Burlington, will also participate.

"The Congress will be a crucial opportunity to mobilize political will and find the means to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Canada will support the Plan of Action to stop the victimization of innocent children," said Mr. Axworthy.

The Congress will address eight themes: children in pornography; law reform and enforcement; tourism and child prostitution; prevention and psychological rehabilitation; health issues; education and training; the sex exploiter; and the role of the media.

The Stockholm Congress is co-sponsored by the UN Children's Fund, End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT), the Government of Sweden and the international non-governmental organization Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

On August 27, Mr. Axworthy will have a bilateral meeting with his Swedish counterpart, Mrs. Lena Hjelm-Wallén, to discuss common issues such as United Nations reform, human rights, European security and bilateral relations.

Mr. Axworthy will then visit Tallinn, Estonia, on August 28, and Vilnius, Lithuania on August 29 to promote bilateral relations with both countries.

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News Release

August 22, 1996

No. 146

CANADA HOPES FOR RESOLUTION OF COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY IMPASSE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed Canada's hope that, in spite of an impasse at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, a way will be found to ensure that the draft Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is signed this September.

"While consensus could not be reached in Geneva, arduous negotiations over the past two years have produced a draft treaty. Canada is working with a wide range of countries to ensure that this draft will be sent to the United Nations General Assembly and opened for signature in September," said Mr. Axworthy.

The Minister noted that this treaty is the best compromise that could be achieved and meets a long-term foreign policy objective: to bring about the permanent end to nuclear test explosions. He added that Canada is committed to signing the CTBT, which is a key component of Canada's broader nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agenda.

Long before formal negotiations began, Canada was active in laying the political and technical foundation for a treaty to end nuclear testing for all time. Over the past two years, Canada has worked hard to resolve some of the Treaty's most difficult and complex issues, such as verification. Canadian compromise language, now part of the text, provides for a meeting in three years to look at ways of overcoming any obstacles in the way of the Treaty's implementation.

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News Release

August 23, 1996

No. 147

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the following diplomatic appointments:

Marie Bernard-Meunier, Assistant Deputy Minister, Global Issues and Culture Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

J. Thomas Boehm, National Co-ordinator, Chemical Weapons Convention National Authority, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Consul General in Seattle, U.S.A.

Alan Bowker, Co-ordinator for Access to Information and Privacy Protection, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes High Commissioner to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Suriname.

Jeremy Kinsman, formerly Ambassador to the Russian Federation, becomes Ambassador to the Italian Republic.

Michael T. Mace, Director General, Europe Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Georgia.

Richard Mann, Director, Trade Development Operations, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

André S. Simard, Inspector General, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes High Commissioner to Malaysia.

Gary J. Smith, formerly Departmental Fellow at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia.

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Biographical information on the appointees is attached.



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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Marie Bernard-Meunier, (BA [Political Science], University of Montreal, 1967; MA [Political Science], University of Montreal, 1973; Ecole Nationale d'Administration, Paris, 1979-80) born in Noranda, Quebec, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1972 and served abroad in New York, Bonn, Vienna and Paris. Mrs. Bernard-Meunier returned to Paris in 1987 as Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Delegate and, from 1991 to 1993, as Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). She was elected to the Executive Board of UNESCO in 1989 and elected President in 1991. In Ottawa, she held a number of positions including, Director General, International Organizations and, since 1995, has been Assistant Deputy Minister, Global Issues and Culture Branch. She is married to Dr. Pierre Bernard and they have one child. Mrs. Bernard-Meunier succeeds Michael R. Bell.

J. Thomas Boehm, (BA, York University, 1963; University of Paris, Sorbonne, 1964; Graduate Studies [Geography] University of Toronto, 1965) born in Toronto, Ontario, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1965 and served abroad in Islamabad, Kingston, Washington, Nairobi and, from 1988 to 1992, as Minister in the Canadian High Commission, London. In Ottawa, Mr. Boehm has held a number of positions including Director, Staff Relations and Employee Services Division, and Director General, Personnel Administration Bureau. In 1993, he served as Vice Commandant, National Defence College, Kingston, Ontario. Since 1994 he has been the National Co-ordinator, Chemical Weapons Convention National Authority. He is married to Mary Ellen Boehm and they have two sons. Mr. Boehm succeeds Bernard Gagosz.

Alan Bowker, (BA Honours [Modern History (English)], University of Toronto, 1965; MA, University of Toronto, 1966; Ph.D, University of Toronto, 1975) born in Medicine Hat, Alberta, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1973 and served abroad in Dar-es-Salaam and Harare. In Ottawa, Mr. Bowker served in the United States Bureau and was involved for many years with the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) as CSCE Co-ordinator within the USSR and Eastern Europe Relations Division and in the Office of CSCE Affairs. From 1990 to 1993 he was Co-ordinator, Cabinet and Parliamentary Liaison, and since 1993 has served as Co-ordinator, Access to Information and Privacy Protection. He is married to Carolyn Bowker and they have two children. Mr. Bowker succeeds Simon Wade.

Jeremy Kinsman, (Princeton University, New Jersey, 1963; Institut d'Études politiques, Paris, 1965) born in Montreal, Quebec, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966. He served abroad in Brussels with the Canadian Delegation to the European Economic Communities, in Algiers, in New York as Minister-Counsellor and subsequently as Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative with the Canadian Mission to the United Nations,

and in Washington as Minister. In Ottawa, Mr. Kinsman held a number of positions including Chairman of the Policy Planning Secretariat of the Department of External Affairs from 1980 to 1981; Assistant Deputy Minister, Cultural Affairs and Broadcasting, with Department of Communications from 1985 to 1990; and, from 1990 to 1992, Assistant Deputy Minister, Political and International Security Affairs. From 1993 to 1996, he was Ambassador to the Russian Federation. He is married to Hana Kinsman and has two children. Mr. Kinsman succeeds de Montigny Marchand.

Michael T. Mace, (BA, Queen's University, 1964) born in Dauphin, Manitoba, joined the Foreign Service of the Department of Manpower and Immigration in 1967, serving in Cairo. In 1971, he transferred to the Department of External Affairs and served in Havana, Moscow, Kuala Lumpur and Tel Aviv. From 1990 to 1993, he was Ambassador to the Republic of Chile with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Paraguay. In Ottawa, he has held a number of positions including Director of Political/Economic and Social Affairs, Personnel Division; Senior Advisor, Middle East Refugee Working Group Co-ordinating Body; and since 1994, Director General, Central and Eastern Europe Bureau. He is married to Jane Elizabeth McIlraith and they have two children. Mr. Mace succeeds Peter Hancock.

Richard Mann, (BSc, University of Toronto, 1967; MBA, University of Toronto, 1969) born in Sudbury, Ontario, joined the Trade Commissioner Service in 1969 and served abroad in Manila, Chicago, Cairo, and in New York with the Canadian Delegation to the United Nations. From 1987 to 1990, he served in Seoul as Minister-Counsellor (Commercial) and, from 1991 to 1994, in Moscow as Minister-Counsellor (Commercial). In Ottawa he has held the positions of Director, East Asia Trade Development, and since 1994, Director, Trade Development Operations Division. He is married to Gloria Mann and they have two children. Mr. Mann is the first resident Canadian Ambassador to Kazakhstan.

André S. Simard, (BA [Education], Collège Ste-Thérèse de Blainville/Collège Ste-Croix; MA [Law], University of Montreal; Certificate in International Law, Academy of International Law of the Hague) born in Montreal, Quebec, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1967 and served abroad in Tokyo, Saigon, Tunis and Bangkok. He was Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon from 1987 to 1989 and Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines from 1989 to 1993. In Ottawa, he has held a number of positions including, Head of the Nuclear Section, Transport, Communications and Energy Division; Official Spokesman and Director, Press Office; Director, Pacific Relations Division; and, Director, Japan Relations Division. Since 1993 he has been Inspector General for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He is married to Sabine Simard and they have two children. Mr. Simard succeeds John P. Bell.

Gary J. Smith, (BA Honours [Political Science and Economics], York University, Glendon College, 1968) born in Toronto, Ontario, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1968 and served abroad in New York, Moscow, Brussels (Canadian Delegation to the North Atlantic Council), and Tel Aviv. He also was posted to New Delhi where he was Deputy High Commissioner from 1986 to 1989 and to Bonn as Minister from 1989 to 1993. In Ottawa he has held a number of positions including Director of Arms Control and Disarmament Division and Director General, Asia and Pacific Branch. From 1994 to 1995, Mr. Smith was Acting Assistant Deputy Minister of the Asia and Pacific Branch. During the past year, Mr. Smith has been the departmental representative as a Fellow with the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. He is married to Laurielle Chabeaux-Smith and they have two children. Mr. Smith succeeds Lawrence Dickenson.

News Release

August 23, 1996

No. 148

STEWART TO VISIT ETHIOPIA AND UGANDA

The Honourable Christine Stewart, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa), will attend the Economic Committee Meeting of the Global Coalition for Africa, August 26-28, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Mrs. Stewart will co-chair the Meeting along with Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, Netherland's Development Co-operation Minister Jan Pronk and former World Bank president Robert McNamara.

The Global Coalition for Africa brings together African leaders and major international partners for informal discussions on strategic development issues. Participants at the Addis Ababa meeting will discuss food security, agriculture, debt and the impact of structural reforms.

"Canada will focus on Africa's success stories and on identifying what really works," stated Mrs. Stewart. "By discussing positive developments, we hope to make gains and move forward on essential areas such as food security and agriculture."

In Ethiopia, Mrs. Stewart will also meet with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Seyoum Mesfin to underline Canada's support of Ethiopia's efforts to reinforce its democratic institutions and to become more self-sufficient in the area of food production.

Following her stay in Ethiopia, Mrs. Stewart will make an official visit to Uganda from August 28 to 30, and meet with President Yoweri Museveni and Foreign Affairs Minister Eriya Kategaya. Regional issues, Canadian encouragement of Uganda's development efforts and economic reforms, and the strengthening of the bilateral relationship will be on the agenda.

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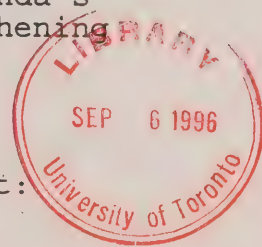
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News Release

August 27, 1996

No. 149

CANADA AND SWEDEN SIGN AMENDED TAX CONVENTION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Finance Minister Paul Martin today announced that Canada and Sweden have signed an amended tax convention designed to enhance bilateral trade and investment. Minister Axworthy, who is currently attending the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Stockholm, Sweden, signed the agreement on Canada's behalf. Swedish Foreign Affairs Minister Lena Hjelm-Wallén signed the agreement on behalf of Sweden.

"This amended agreement will solidify even further our already strong ties with Sweden," stated Mr. Axworthy. "It is also a telling sign of the increasing importance Canada and Sweden both place on facilitating trade and investment between our two countries."

"The Canadian government is committed to financial reform, and improvements to the tax system are an important component of this strategy," said Mr. Martin. "Eliminating the double taxation of individuals or companies in one country who do business or earn income in the other will help promote bilateral trade and investment."

The Convention promotes trade and investment between Canada and Sweden by setting guidelines designed to avoid double taxation. It also provides for a number of exemptions with respect to interest payments, patents, computer software and know-how.

Minister Axworthy's official visit to Sweden is being followed by visits to Estonia and Lithuania, August 28-29, where he will meet with senior officials to promote bilateral relations.

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For copies of the Convention, contact:

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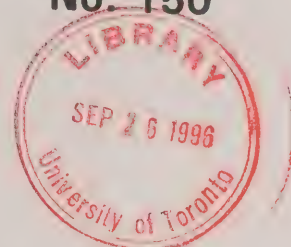
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News Release

August 29, 1996

No. 150

CANADA AND REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA SIGN TAX CONVENTION



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Finance Minister Paul Martin today announced that Canada and Lithuania have signed a tax convention designed to enhance bilateral trade. Minister Axworthy, who is currently on an official visit in Vilnius, Lithuania, signed the agreement on Canada's behalf. Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys signed on behalf of Lithuania.

"This agreement will help deepen our bilateral relations with Lithuania," stated Mr. Axworthy. "It is also a welcome sign of the importance both Canada and Lithuania place on trade between our two countries."

"This agreement with Lithuania, which eliminates the double taxation of individuals or companies of one country who do business or earn income in the other, will contribute significantly to economic development," said Mr. Martin.

The Convention promotes trade and investment between Canada and Lithuania by setting guidelines designed to avoid double taxation and prevent fiscal evasion.

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News Release

August 30, 1996

No. 151

EGGLETON TO VISIT DUBLIN AND LONDON



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will visit Dublin and London from September 4 to 8 to promote investment in Canada, as well as Canadian aerospace exports.

In Dublin, Mr. Eggleton will meet with Mr. Dick Spring, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, and with his counterpart, Mr. Enda Kenny, Minister for Tourism and Trade. As Ireland holds the Presidency of the European Union, this visit will provide an opportunity to discuss strengthening transatlantic economic and political co-operation. On September 4, Mr. Eggleton will speak to a joint meeting of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and the Ireland-Canada Business Association.

"Last year, Ireland had the fastest-growing economy in the European Union, which makes it an ideal destination for Canadian foreign investment," the Minister said. "As well, through increased bilateral trade and investment, Canadians can demonstrate concrete support for the peace process."

In London, Mr. Eggleton will meet with Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Minister of State (North American Affairs), with the financial community, and with members of the print and broadcast media. On September 5, he will visit the Farnborough International Air Show, one of the two most important trade fairs for the world aerospace market, to lend support to the extensive Canadian private sector participation at the show.

"The United Kingdom is Canada's second-largest source and destination of foreign investment, as well as an influential member of the European Union," said Mr. Eggleton. "It is a market in which Canadian business does well and in which we wish to do better."

U.K. investments in Canada stand at \$16.5 billion, while Canadian investments in the U.K. amount to \$14 billion. The U.K. is also Canada's third-largest export market, with two-way trade amounting to \$9.2 billion in 1995.



Two-way trade between Canada and Ireland currently stands at \$755 million, and direct Canadian investment in Ireland amounts to \$4.4 billion, which makes Ireland the fourth-largest destination for Canadian foreign investment. Irish investment in Canada stands at \$209 million.

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News Release

August 30, 1996

No. 152



APPOINTMENTS TO IDRC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointment of Dr. Dan M. Martin and the reappointments of Sir Shridath Ramphal and Mrs. Marie-Angélique Savané to the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

IDRC is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help developing countries find sustainable solutions to their economic, social and environmental problems through research. IDRC is directed by a 21-member Board of Governors who are appointed for four-year terms. The Board is international, consisting of 11 Canadian members and 10 non-Canadian members.

Dr. Martin, who holds a Ph.D. in political science and international relations from Princeton University, is currently director of the World Environment and Resources Program of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. He was president of the Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation in New York city from 1984 to 1986. From 1980 to 1984, he was President of the Cranbrook Educational Community, in Bloomfields Hills, Michigan, and from 1972 to 1980, President of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest in Chicago, Illinois. He is a board member of several international environmental and cultural organizations.

A lawyer, Sir Shridath Ramphal is Co-chairperson of the Commission on Global Governance, Chairperson of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance and President of the International Steering Committee of the Rockefeller Foundation's Program for Leadership in Environment and Development. He was the Commonwealth Secretary-General from 1975 to 1990, and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice and the Attorney-General of Guyana. He has been a member of many international commissions including the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission).

A sociologist, Mrs. Savané is currently Director of the Africa Division of the United Nations Population Fund in New York. From 1990 to 1992 she was a special advisor to the Office of the



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva and from 1985 to 1988, Vice-President of the Society for International Development in Rome. Founder and former editor-in-chief of the magazine *Famille et Développement*, widely read in Francophone Africa, Mrs. Savané worked for 10 years as team leader with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development in Geneva. She has been a member of numerous committees, commissions and associations including the Independent Commission for Global Governance and the South Commission.

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News Release

September 5, 1996

No. 153

CANADA TO CONTRIBUTE TO RESEARCH ON RAOUL WALLENBERG



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will assist in defraying the costs of research activities to be conducted by Winnipeg lawyer David Matas to determine the fate and whereabouts of Raoul Wallenberg.

Mr. Wallenberg was the renowned Swedish diplomat responsible for saving the lives of tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews during the Second World War. In 1944, at great risk to his own life, he masterminded a scheme to issue protective passports for Hungarian Jews in Budapest, permitting them to avoid deportation and certain death in Nazi concentration camps. In January 1945, Raoul Wallenberg disappeared, and unconfirmed reports suggest that he may have died in July 1947.

"Canadians attach real importance to the extraordinary heroism of Mr. Wallenberg and the inspiration that it offers to champions of human rights who might despair over the huge obstacles they face," said Mr. Axworthy. "In this context, the Canadian government praises and supports David Matas' effort to conduct a new inquiry into Mr. Wallenberg's fate."

For his courage, Raoul Wallenberg was declared an honorary citizen of Canada in 1985.

The launch of Mr. Matas' research will coincide with the unveiling of a memorial to Raoul Wallenberg in North York, Ontario, on September 8.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -



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News Release

September 6, 1996

No. 154

AXWORTHY AND STEWART TO MEET WITH CENTRAL AMERICAN LEADERS IN GUATEMALA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will be in Guatemala on September 12 to meet with the foreign ministers of the seven Central American countries: Nicaragua, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize and Panama.

The one-day meeting will provide an opportunity to continue the successful consultations that took place between Canadian and Central American heads of government and foreign ministers in Ottawa in May 1996. At that time, Central American and Canadian ministers resolved to hold a follow-up meeting in Central America by early fall.

"This visit highlights the expanding relationship between Canada and Central America and the broadening of Canada's role within the hemisphere," said Mr. Axworthy. "Among the subjects we will discuss are the creation of air links between Canada and Central America, the negotiation of Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements, co-operation in the fight against terrorism and illicit drugs, and continuing efforts to build a peaceful and democratic society."

Minister Axworthy will also take the opportunity to encourage support for Canadian initiatives related to the total eradication of land mines, including the forthcoming Land Mine Conference to be held October 3-5 in Ottawa. In addition, Mr. Axworthy will meet Guatemalan President Alvaro Arzu Irigoyen and Foreign Minister Eduardo Stein Barrillas to discuss the Guatemala peace process. Canada applauds the progress already achieved and looks forward to the conclusion of a final peace agreement.

"Along with our increased involvement with the Organization of American States," said Mrs. Stewart, "we are implementing more regular ministerial contacts with our Central American counterparts. This new process of ongoing consultation, together



with our continuing financial support for political, social and economic development in Central America, reflects our strong commitment to the hemisphere."

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News Release

September 6, 1996

No. 155

MINISTER AXWORTHY EXPRESSES CONCERN AT CLOSURE OF NIGERIAN HIGH COMMISSION



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his concern at the announcement by the Government of Nigeria that it will close its High Commission in Ottawa.

"As an active member of the Commonwealth, especially its Ministerial Action Group (CMAG), Canada believes that it is necessary to maintain an open line of communication with Nigeria, notwithstanding the different views we have," said Mr. Axworthy. "This development will make dialogue more difficult, which is contrary to the spirit of the Commonwealth."

Canada will maintain its presence in Lagos in order to continue a dialogue with all Nigerians, including those in civil society and those working for democratic change. Canada will raise this issue with other CMAG members.

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News Release

September 9, 1996

No. 156

PETTIGREW TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF LA FRANCOPHONIE AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN PARIS

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, Pierre S. Pettigrew, will visit Paris from September 11 to 13 to discuss a number of issues concerning la Francophonie and co-operation with representatives of several international institutions.

La Francophonie is the community of French-speaking peoples or peoples who use French to varying degrees, domestically or internationally. It comprises 49 states and governments that share French as a common language. During his visit, the Minister will have working meetings with the President of the Permanent Council of La Francophonie, Dr. Émile-Derlin Zinsou, and the Secretary-General of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT), Jean-Louis Roy.

"La Francophonie is currently strengthening its institutions with a view to taking on a more political mission after the Hanoi Summit in 1997," said Mr. Pettigrew. "La Francophonie is a well-established part of Canada's foreign policy. The Canadian government, in the interest of all Canadians, has always made a point to work together in the context of la Francophonie with those provinces having a majority or significant minority of Francophones."

Minister Pettigrew will also take the opportunity to meet with the French Minister for Co-operation, Jacques Godfrain, and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Don Johnston, as well as senior UNESCO officials.

"The institutions that unite French-speaking countries provide important opportunities for international co-operation in development," added Mr. Pettigrew. "That is why Canada will continue to strengthen the role of these institutions, while channelling 20 per cent of its bilateral development aid to members of la Francophonie."

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News Release

September 10, 1996

MINISTER EGGLETON ANNOUNCES SOFTWOOD LUMBER PLAN



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today a plan to allocate on a company basis the export of softwood lumber to the United States.

Under the the Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement announced April 2, 1996, the United States made an unprecedented commitment not to launch any trade actions on softwood lumber exports from Canada for the next five years. Canada was thus able to ensure continued secure access to the U.S. market, protecting Canadian jobs.

Today's plan implements a provision of the agreement by providing allocations to lumber companies in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec which will permit these companies to export specific quantities of softwood lumber to the United States without payment of any export fees.

"This plan is balanced and fair to the provinces and to the softwood lumber industry," Mr. Eggleton said. "We consulted extensively, and have achieved considerable consensus in both Western and Eastern Canada among companies and provinces which would be affected by this plan."

Mr. Eggleton said the plan:

- allows companies already established in the lumber market to continue their traditional patterns of trade;
- provides for the possibility of allocations for new entrants;
- permits some change in a company's share to provide for growth; and
- takes a balanced approach to meet the interests of the industry throughout the country.

The new allocation system, implementing a provision of the Canada-U.S. agreement, provides that lumber companies based in British Columbia will receive 59 per cent of the initial allocations with 23 per cent for Quebec firms, 10.3 per cent for Ontario companies and 7.7 per cent for Alberta firms.



This allocation, based on recent export shipments, goes to primary producers and to remanufacturers which further process wood by such processes as sawing, planing and treating, materially changing the form of the lumber. While wholesalers will not receive direct allocations, the primary industry has provided written assurances to the federal government that it will continue to use wholesalers in the provinces as distributors to the United States - in other words, to maintain "business as usual."

"I will monitor the system closely over the next few months to ensure that these assurances are being kept and that the system is working to the benefit of all segments of the softwood lumber industry," Minister Eggleton stated.

The allocation will also be reviewed annually for the next four years, with adjustments to be based on changes in firms participating and on the previous year's exports. The plan will permit changes to the allocation system to respond to developments in the lumber industry and trade.

Under the Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement announced in April 1996, no export fees will apply to shipment of 14.7 billion board feet a year originating from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. That number exceeds the level of lumber exports to the United States from the four provinces in all previous years except 1995. For exports above that level, the Canadian government will collect fees of US\$50 per thousand board feet for the first 650 million board feet, and US\$100 per thousand board feet for greater quantities. Any money collected from these fees will be returned by the Government of Canada to the four provinces affected by the agreement. The agreement does not cap exports to the United States, which have in recent years amounted to about \$8 billion annually.

The new system is one element of the Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement, which was entered into by the federal government to avoid costly countervailing duty actions which have been threatened by the United States.

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BACKGROUNDER

Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement

The Canada-United States Softwood Lumber Agreement, announced on April 2, 1996, provides Canadian exporters with a guarantee against U.S. trade actions for five years. It includes an unprecedented U.S. government commitment to dismiss any new petitions for trade action.

In return, Canada agreed that softwood lumber exports to the United States originating from British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta that exceed 14.7 billion board feet a year will be subject to a US\$50 per thousand board feet border fee for the first 650 million board feet, and a US\$100 per thousand board feet fee for greater quantities.

Revenues collected through the export fee by the Government of Canada will be distributed to the provinces in accordance with their respective shares of lumber shipments subject to the fee.

No fee will apply to shipments below 14.7 billion board feet, a level which is even higher than the 1992-94 average annual exports of softwood lumber from those four provinces to the United States. If the fee were applied to the record shipment level of 16.2 billion board feet in 1995, 91 per cent of exports from those four provinces would enter without payment of the fee.

The federal government has established company allocations after consulting the lumber trade - producers, wholesalers, other exporters - and the provinces, as well as other interested parties.

No fees are required for lumber originating from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Atlantic Provinces or the Territories. These are exempted from the agreement.

The Agreement provides for an increase in exports without fee for each calendar quarter when the average price exceeds US\$405 per thousand board feet in the first two years and US\$410 in the last three years. Canada has qualified for at least a further 92 million board feet of exports without fees from April to June 1996, and may qualify for an additional 92 million board feet in the current quarter if the average price remains above this "trigger" price.

Softwood lumber export allocations

Allocation to exporters of how much they can ship without a fee avoids distorting effects of a rush to the border, and allows the Canadian lumber industry to plan its marketing and shipping in a normal, orderly way. This principle was recognized in the Canada-United States Softwood Lumber Agreement announced on April 2, 1996. It was, of course, up to the Government of Canada to decide how the allocation would be made.

The allocations plan is a national program under the *Export and Import Permits Act*. The plan provides for a national advisory committee involving industry and the British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec governments. In addition, provinces may establish their own advisory bodies to assist them in providing advice on administration of the allocations to the federal government.

The allocation is to primary producers and remanufacturers. Remanufacturers further process softwood lumber by such processes as sawing, planing and treating, materially changing the form of the lumber.

The new allocation system, implementing the Canada-U.S. agreement, allocates shipments on a company basis. The initial allocation amounts to 59.0 per cent for British Columbia firms, 7.7 per cent for Alberta companies, 10.3 per cent for Ontario firms and 23.0 per cent for Quebec companies.

Wholesalers

While wholesalers will not receive direct allocations, the primary industry in each of the four provinces in question has provided written letters of commitment that it will continue to use wholesalers as distributors to U.S. customers on a "business as usual" basis.

In addition, the federal government will allow primary producers to transfer any portions of their respective allocations to wholesalers in an expeditious manner, so as to allow wholesalers to export softwood lumber to the United States.

Furthermore, the federal government has established an advisory committee consisting of two prominent Canadian wholesalers and two primary producers. The committee will be chaired by Ron MacDonald, MP for Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and Parliamentary Secretary to Mr. Eggleton, and will report to Mr. Eggleton on a regular basis concerning any changes in the value of exports handled by Canadian lumber wholesalers. The federal government has expressly reserved the right to "claw back" allocations given to primary producers and to redistribute some portion to wholesalers if the "business as usual" commitment to Canadian wholesalers is not maintained.

The decision to make the allocations directly to primary producers and remanufacturers was based on such factors as:

- the advice given to the federal government by most of the four provincial governments affected and their respective major lumber associations;
- the fact that primary producers and remanufacturers have made an extensive long-term investment in plant and equipment;

- the fact that primary producers are closely linked to managing the forest resource, a factor of strong interest to several provinces;
- the fact that primary producers and remanufacturers contribute heavily in jobs and value-added to provincial economies; and
- the fact that associations representing primary producers have provided firm undertakings to continue using wholesalers for lumber exports to the United States.

The system provides for flexibility to accommodate normal market adjustments such as growth and new entrants.

New entrants

The plan, announced today by Mr. Eggleton, reserves the following allocation for "new mills" over the next 18 months:

- 294 million board feet (equivalent to 2 per cent of the 14.7-billion allocation) without payment of any export fees;
- 184 million board feet bonus available under the Canada-U.S. agreement, without payment of any export fees; and
- 150 million board feet, which carries an export fee of US\$50 per thousand board feet.

The above provision is designed to provide access to export allocations for new mills which began production in 1995 or 1996, or had verifiable investment commitments to build by April 1, 1996, or those mills with major capital investments in new capacity since January 1995. However, in order to establish precise selection criteria and allocations by the end of November 1996, advice will be sought from industry and provinces. The objective of these provisions is to secure the jobs which will result from these new mills.

Other matters

A process to allocate up to an additional 500 million board feet at a US\$50 per thousand board feet fee has been agreed to by the industry and has been incorporated in the plan. There are also provisions to protect the percentage share of the market held by small producers.

The allocations will also be reviewed in January and annually for the next four years, with adjustments based on changes in firms participating and on the previous year's exports. This will permit changes to the allocation system to respond to developments in the lumber industry and trade.

Allocations will be adjusted when they are under-utilized and unused allocations would be returned to a national pool for redistribution.

Allocations could be transferred from one company to another with Ministerial approval.

Softwood lumber case history

Softwood lumber has been an area of Canada-U.S. trade friction for over 15 years. In 1982, the United States conducted its first countervailing duty investigation of softwood lumber from Canada, and concluded that provincial timber harvesting costs called stumpage fees did not confer a countervailable subsidy to Canadian lumber producers. In June 1986, a second countervailing duty investigation was initiated.

In December 1986, Canada and the United States signed the Softwood Lumber Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), under which Canada imposed a temporary export tax of 15 per cent on softwood lumber entering the U.S. market from Canada.

In October 1991, Canada terminated the MOU. In response, the United States initiated a countervailing duty investigation and imposed an interim bonding requirement on imports of lumber from Canada except from the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland.

In 1992, the investigation resulted in the imposition of countervail duties against Canadian lumber.

The Canadian government, the provinces and the lumber industry filed challenges against the final determinations of subsidy and injury before two Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Chapter 19 binational review panels. In 1994, the United States terminated its countervailing duty action after an FTA Extraordinary Challenge Committee affirmed the findings of the FTA Subsidy Panel that the U.S. Department of Commerce should not have found Canadian programs to be countervailable subsidies.

As a result, the United States refunded \$800 million of countervail duties that it had collected from Canadian exporters.

Since the last Chapter 19 panel case, there have been changes both in the market and in U.S. law which rendered another Canadian victory before a binational review panel far less certain. These panels are only empowered to rule on whether the United States has properly applied its own domestic law on countervail duties.

Given the importance of this trade, both countries agreed to establish a bilateral consultative process to create better understanding, resolve problems and avoid further litigation in this sector. Canadian provinces and industry were fully engaged in the process throughout 1995.

News Release

September 10, 1996

No. 158

AXWORTHY WELCOMES PASSAGE OF COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY RESOLUTION



Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the passage in New York of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution adopting the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

"Canada is very pleased by this news. Through the perseverance and commitment of the overwhelming majority of the international community, we now have a worldwide treaty which will ban nuclear test explosions for all times," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada has been working with a group of countries, led by Australia, to secure the approval by the UNGA of the draft CTBT after negotiations on the text were stalled at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

During the week of September 23, Mr. Axworthy will participate in the 51st session of the UNGA. "I look forward to signing the CTBT while in New York, in fulfilment of this long-standing Canadian foreign policy objective," said the Minister.

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News Release

September 11, 1996

No. 159

QIAN QICHEN, CHINA'S VICE-PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER, TO VISIT CANADA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that China's Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, Qian Qichen, will pay an official visit to Canada from September 17 to 20. During his stay, Mr. Qian will visit Vancouver and Ottawa. In Vancouver, from September 17 to 18, Mr. Qian will be hosted by Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan.

"Vice-Premier Qian's visit is indicative of the important and multi-faceted relationship that exists between Canada and China," said Mr. Axworthy. "My colleagues and I look forward to significant discussions on issues ranging from trade and international peace and security to the advancement of human rights and the rule of law."

"As Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for Hong Kong, Qian Qichen will play a key role in the transition of the territory from British to Chinese sovereignty," said Mr. Chan. "Canada has a direct interest in the continued autonomy, stability and prosperity of Hong Kong, and we will use this opportunity to emphasize the importance of continuity for Hong Kong's institutions and freedoms. We will also discuss specific issues of immediate interest to Canadian citizens."

While in Ottawa on September 18 and 19, Mr. Qian will be hosted by Mr. Axworthy. He will also meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew, and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Lucienne Robillard. In addition, Mr. Qian will deliver an address at a luncheon hosted by the Canadian Institute for International Affairs and the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters Canada.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

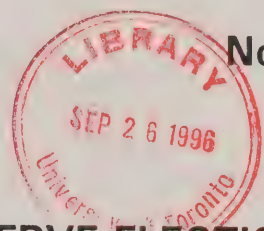
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News Release

September 12, 1996



No. 160

CANADA PROVIDING MISSION TO OBSERVE ELECTIONS IN BOSNIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada is providing a 30-member mission to observe the September 14 elections in Bosnia, under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

"These elections are a key element of the Bosnian Peace Agreement and an essential first step toward institution-building and democratization," stated Mr. Axworthy. "While we recognize that the observers will be working under challenging conditions, we believe that their presence will contribute to achieving as democratic a result as possible."

The OSCE was given responsibility for supervising the preparation and conduct of the Bosnian elections under the Dayton Peace Agreement.

"Canadian expertise and assistance are instrumental to the technical preparation for these elections," added Mr. Axworthy. "And, in addition to reinforcing our commitment to the OSCE, this mission reflects the priority Canada attaches to democratic development in the region."

The observer mission includes four federal members of Parliament: Gar Knutson, Elgin-Norfolk; Carolyn Parrish, Mississauga West; Nelson A. Riis, Kamloops; and Andrew P. Telegdi, Waterloo. Among the other observers, many possess extensive election expertise and have been assigned to senior positions by the OSCE.

In addition to the observer mission, 15 Canadians were sent to Bosnia in August to work as OSCE election supervisors. The Honourable John Reid was appointed one of three international members on the Provisional Elections Commission, and Mr. Craig Jenness is heading the OSCE's human rights section.



Canada's role in the electoral process in Bosnia is an integral part of a broad CIDA program of support for reconstruction in the former Yugoslavia.

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For a list of the observers, or further information, media representatives may contact:

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News Release

September 12, 1996

No. 161



CANADA STRENGTHENS LINKS TO CENTRAL AMERICA WITH INVESTMENT AGREEMENT AND AIR NEGOTIATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today signed a Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) with Panama and offered a date for the beginning of negotiations to establish air links with Central America. The Minister is in Guatemala, along with Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart, meeting with the foreign and trade ministers of the seven Central American countries.

"The Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement with Panama is a concrete example of Canada's efforts to encourage closer economic links with Central America," said Mr. Axworthy. "Once the FIPA is in force, the Canadian business community can pursue, with greater confidence, opportunities to strengthen the investment relationship in Panama."

FIPAs are bilateral, reciprocal agreements to promote and protect foreign investment through legally binding rights and obligations concerning national treatment, most-favoured-nation treatment, expropriation, transfers of funds, trade-related investment measures, transparency, and investor-to-state and state-to-state dispute settlements.

The agreement with Panama is based on Canada's model agreement, which incorporates key provisions from the North American Free Trade Agreement investment chapter. Under the new agreement, Panama has made significant commitments on investment protection. Agreements under this model have also been signed with Ukraine, Latvia, Trinidad and Tobago, the Philippines, South Africa, Romania, Ecuador, Barbados and Venezuela. Negotiations are already under way with Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Minister Axworthy also announced that a Canadian delegation expects to travel to Central America during the week of November 18, 1996, to begin talks with representatives of all interested Central American governments on establishing bilateral



air transport negotiations with Canada. "We look forward to the establishment of increased air links and to the impetus such links will give to greater trade and economic activity between Canada and Central America," said Mr. Axworthy. To date, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala have each asked to negotiate a bilateral air agreement with Canada.

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News Release

September 13, 1996

No. 162

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the following diplomatic appointments:

Nicholas Etheridge, Diplomat-in-Residence at Carleton University, becomes High Commissioner to the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Daniel Edward (Ted) Hobson, Director General, Export and Import Controls Bureau, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with concurrent accreditation as Ambassador to the State of Bahrain and to the Republic of Yemen.

Jean-Pierre Juneau, Assistant Deputy Minister, Europe Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, becomes Ambassador to the European Union.

Michael Molloy, Director General, Ontario Region, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, becomes Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Michel de Salaberry, Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, becomes Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Dennis Snider, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, becomes Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

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Biographical notes on the appointees are attached.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Nicholas Etheridge, (B.A., University of Victoria, 1965; M.Litt., University of Aberdeen, 1967; M.Sc. London School of Economics, 1979) born in Fowey, England, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1967 and served abroad in Canberra, Hanoi and Saigon, Geneva, Baghdad, and Belgrade. From 1990 to 1992, he was Deputy High Commissioner to Australia and in 1993 was the Canadian Resident Representative to the Supreme National Council in Phnom Penh. From 1993 to 1995 he served as Chargé d'Affaires in the Canadian Embassy in Riga. From 1985 to 1986, he undertook an assignment with Petro Canada International Assistance Corporation. In Ottawa, Mr. Etheridge has held a number of positions including, Director, Political and Strategic Analysis Division; Director, Asia Pacific South Relations Division; and, most recently, Diplomat-in-Residence at Carleton University. Mr. Etheridge succeeds Jon Scott.

Daniel Edward (Ted) Hobson, (B.A., Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Massachusetts, 1964; M.A., University of Massachusetts, 1966; Ph.D. studies, University of Massachusetts, 1966-71), born in Ottawa, Ontario, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1971 and served abroad in Islamabad, Geneva, and Paris, and from 1991 to 1993 was Minister-Counsellor in the Canadian Embassy, Washington, D.C. In Ottawa, Mr. Hobson has held a number of positions including Director, Economic Relations with Developing Countries Division, and since 1993, Director General, Export and Import Controls Bureau. He is married to Sharon (Sherry) Hobson and they have two children. Mr. Hobson succeeds Peter Sutherland.

Jean-Pierre Juneau, (B.A., Collège des Jésuites, 1965; B.A., Honours [Political Science], Laval University, 1968; M.A. [Political Science-International Relations], Laval University, 1969), born in Quebec City, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1969 and served abroad in Havana, Paris, Washington and again in Paris as Minister-Counsellor from 1985 to 1988. From 1991 to 1994 he was Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain. In Ottawa, Mr. Juneau has held a number of positions including Director General, Western Europe Bureau and, since 1994, has been Assistant Deputy Minister, Europe Branch. He is married to Emitza Escobar-Jurado and they have two children. Mr. Juneau succeeds Jacques Roy.

Michael Molloy, (B.A. [History], University of Notre Dame, 1966), born in Vancouver, British Columbia, joined the Foreign Service of the Department of Manpower and Immigration in 1968 and served abroad in Tokyo, Beirut, Minneapolis, Geneva, Amman, Damascus and Nairobi. In Ottawa, Mr. Molloy held a number of positions including Senior Co-ordinator of the Indochinese Refugee Program; Director General, Refugee Affairs; Director General, International Migration and Program Co-ordination; and, most recently, Director General, Ontario Region, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Toronto. He is married to Jo Molloy and they have three children. Mr. Molloy succeeds Michel de Salaberry.

Michel de Salaberry (B.A. and B.Ph., Laval University and University of Ottawa, 1966; M.A. [Political Science], Queen's University, 1970; doctoral studies, Fondation nationale des sciences politiques, Paris, 1968-1971), born in Hull, Quebec, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1975 and served abroad in Algiers, Rome and Tel Aviv. Since 1995, he has been Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. In Ottawa, Mr. de Salaberry has held a number of positions including Deputy Director, Middle East Division; Chief of Staff to the Minister for Constitutional Affairs; and Director, Middle East Relations Division. He succeeds Donald McLennan.

Dennis Snider (B.A., Waterloo Lutheran University, 1971), born in Goderich, Ontario, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1972 and served abroad in Belgrade, Bridgetown, Budapest and Brussels where he was Counsellor, Canadian Delegation to the North Atlantic Council. Since 1994, he has been Chargé d'Affaires a.i. to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In Ottawa, Mr. Snider has held a number of positions including Stockholm Conference Co-ordinator, Arms Control Division; Deputy Director, Defence Relations Division; and Director, Non-Proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament Division. He is married to Susan Robertson and they have three children.

News Release

September 16, 1996

GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO COUNTER U.S. HELMS-BURTON ACT

No. 163



The Government today introduced legislation in the House of Commons to help protect Canadian companies against foreign measures such as the U.S. Helms-Burton Act regarding Cuba.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and International Trade Minister Art Eggleton said that the legislation amending the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) will give Canadian companies more legal tools to defend themselves against U.S. court claims under Helms-Burton.

"This package of amendments is a key element of Canada's leadership role in the international campaign against Helms-Burton," said Mr. Axworthy. "Despite President Clinton's decision in July to suspend the right of U.S. companies to sue, the Act is still in effect, and remains a serious breach of international law. These amendments send a strong signal that we are not backing down, and that we are prepared to take strong measures to protect both Canadian interests and international law."

"Helms-Burton is an unwarranted move to extend the arm of U.S. law into trade between other countries," Mr. Eggleton said. "The FEMA changes are a deterrent against U.S. companies seeking to penalize Canadian firms doing legitimate business with Cuba. We will continue our joint efforts with other countries to oppose Helms-Burton."

Under the Helms-Burton Act, U.S. nationals may launch lawsuits in U.S. courts against Canadian and other foreign firms allegedly "trafficking" in property expropriated from these American citizens by Cuba. It also provides for restrictions on temporary entry into the United States of corporate officers and controlling shareholders of these companies, along with their spouses and minor children.

The proposed FEMA amendments:

- allow the Attorney General to issue "blocking" orders declaring that judgments handed down under any objectionable foreign law, such as Helms-Burton, will not be enforced or recognized in Canada;



- permit Canadians to recover in Canadian courts any amounts awarded under those foreign rulings, along with their court costs in Canada and the foreign country – a measure known as the "clawback"; and
- give the Attorney General of Canada the authority to amend a schedule listing pieces of objectionable foreign legislation that, in his or her view, violate international law.

The Government is also amending FEMA to update penalties so that Canadians will be less likely to abide by objectionable foreign laws and more likely to follow Canadian law. Under these amendments, Canadian courts will be given criteria to vary the penalty according to circumstances.

U.S. President Clinton announced on July 15, 1996, that U.S. claimants' right to sue would be suspended for a six-month period. This suspension could be renewed for further six-month periods.

Some Canadians have already been informed that they would be barred entry to the United States as of August 24.

Ministers Axworthy and Eggleton announced the Government's intention to amend FEMA on June 17, 1996.

- 30 -

A backgrounder is attached.

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Background

CANADA'S FOREIGN EXTRATERRITORIAL MEASURES ACT (FEMA) AND THE U.S. HELMS-BURTON ACT

Canada's Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act

- The Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) became law in February 1985, and was designed to defend Canadian interests against attempts by foreign governments or courts to apply unreasonable laws or rulings in Canada.
- FEMA currently gives the Attorney General of Canada, in agreement with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the authority to forbid compliance in Canada with extraterritorial measures that, in the Attorney General's view, infringe Canadian sovereignty. In addition, there is authority to restrict provision of documents to foreign courts if such an action infringes Canadian sovereignty.
- The Act is now being strengthened and updated to allow Canada to respond to changing circumstances, such as recent attempts by the United States to attack legitimate Canadian business interests under the Helms-Burton Act.
- The proposed FEMA amendments would permit the Attorney General of Canada to block any attempt by a foreign claimant to enforce a judgment under a law such as Helms-Burton in Canada. They would also give Canadian companies recourse in Canadian courts — the "clawback" — if awards are made against them in U.S. courts under the Helms-Burton Act. The FEMA amendments would provide a right to claim damages in Canada for an equivalent amount against the American claimant.
- In the future the Attorney General, with the agreement of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, could place other foreign laws the Attorney General considers objectionable on a list under FEMA.

Here is how one of these changes, the "clawback", might apply in a hypothetical example:

- A U.S. national might win a suit against a Canadian in a U.S. court under the Helms-Burton Act.
- If the Canadian had no assets in the United States, the U.S. national would have to ask a Canadian court to enforce the judgment. The Attorney General of Canada could issue an order blocking this process.
- If the Canadian has paid damages in the United States to an American, he or she could then sue the American in Canadian

courts to recoup the full amount of the award. This amount plus court costs in both countries would be applied against the American's assets in Canada.

- The amendments would also allow a Canadian forced to fight a Helms-Burton court action in the U.S. to try to recover court costs from the American party in Canadian courts even before the case is over in the U.S.

Penalties

- Financial penalties under FEMA will also be increased to discourage Canadians from complying with objectionable foreign laws.
- Under the current system, a Canadian company, faced with conflicting demands under foreign and Canadian law, might well choose to obey the law of the foreign country if the penalties there are substantially greater than in Canada. Under the FEMA changes, courts will be able to vary the penalty according to mitigating circumstances.
- Current penalties range up to C\$10,000 or five years imprisonment, or both, upon indictment. The amendments will increase the maximum penalty to C\$1.5 million. Comparable maximum financial penalties under the U.S. Cuban Assets Control Regulations are up to US\$1 million.

The U.S. Helms-Burton Act: Title III

- This section of the Act allows U.S. nationals with claims on expropriated property in Cuba to sue in U.S. courts in order to recover money from foreign companies or people who "traffic" in that property.
- For example, a Canadian firm that invests in a property that a U.S. national claims was expropriated by the Cuban government at some time in the past could face a lawsuit in U.S. courts.
- In mid-July, President Clinton suspended the right of companies to sue under Title III for six months. But the title still became law, and the President could reverse his decision at any time.

The U.S. Helms-Burton Act: Title IV

- Title IV of the Helms-Burton Act allows the U.S. government to deny entry to senior executives of companies that the U.S. State Department determines have been "trafficking", after March 12, 1996, in property subject to a U.S. claim. This provision also applies to agents, spouses and minors of these executives.

- The American government sent letters to some Canadians in July, informing them that they would be banned from entering the United States as of August 24.

Canada's Moves to Oppose Helms-Burton

- Canada has rallied international opposition to the Act at the world's major economic and political fora.
- At a meeting of the World Trade Organization's (WTO) general council, Canada made its opposition to the Act clear, in concert with the European Union (EU), Mexico and Japan.
- As part of talks on a Multilateral Agreement on Investment in June, Canada asked members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to ban boycotts of firms that invest in third countries. There was almost unanimous support for the proposal.
- Canada's opposition to Helms-Burton led the Organization of American States (OAS) to refer the law to the Inter-American Juridical Committee to investigate whether the Act is consistent with international law.
- The EU is drafting legislation similar to Canada's FEMA, and other nations are considering such a move. Mexico has already introduced legislation into its Senate.
- International Trade Minister Art Eggleton raised the issue in person with then-U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and with EU ambassadors.
- Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has stated his concerns directly to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.
- Canada is also pursuing this issue through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which has rules governing investment and temporary entry.
- NAFTA consultations were held with the United States in late April and again in May. Mexico participated in both sessions and shares Canada's concerns.
- Canada and the U.S. held a meeting of the North American Free Trade Agreement Commission in late June. Canada is now in a position to request a dispute settlement panel under the NAFTA should it feel this move is warranted.

Helms-Burton: Key Dates

February 24: The Cuban air force shot down two U.S. civilian aircraft. President Clinton threw his support behind the bill soon afterward.

March 3-4: International Trade Minister Art Eggleton raised the issue in a Washington meeting with his American counterpart, then-U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

March 4-5: The Summit of Caribbean Community leaders, including Prime Minister Chrétien, issued a communiqué in Grenada strongly objecting to the bill.

March 5: Mr. Eggleton met with the ambassadors of EU countries plus 17 other countries to outline Canada's concerns about Helms-Burton and to suggest working together on the issue in international organizations.

March 12: The Helms-Burton bill was signed into law by the U.S. President. On the same day, Canada requested formal consultations with the United States under NAFTA Chapter 20.

March 14: Canada raised Helms-Burton at the negotiating group of the Multilateral Agreement on Investment in Paris.

March 28: Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy expressed Canada's concerns about Helms-Burton in a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Washington.

April 16: At the WTO General Council meeting, Canada joined other countries, including the EU, Mexico and Japan, in expressing strong opposition to Helms-Burton.

April 22: EU foreign ministers issued a statement in Luxembourg condemning the Helms-Burton Act and indicating an intention to consider a challenge under the WTO.

April 26: The first round of NAFTA consultations, involving both Canada and Mexico, was held in Washington.

May 3: The EU formally requested WTO consultations on Helms-Burton.

May 16: Prime Minister Chrétien and Central American leaders from Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Belize issued a communiqué stressing the right of sovereign states to maintain trade and commercial links according to their own foreign policies and laws.

May 21-22: Mr. Eggleton strongly registered Canada's concerns at an OECD ministerial meeting in Paris.

May 22-23: Mr. Axworthy raised the Helms-Burton issue with foreign ministers in Argentina and Brazil during a visit to those two countries.

May 28: A second round of NAFTA consultations was held in Washington.

May 29: The U.S. government sent out advisory letters to three companies, including one Canadian firm, informing them that they were potential "traffickers".

June 4: EU-U.S. consultations were held in Geneva under the auspices of the WTO.

June 4: The OAS issued a resolution at its General Assembly in Panama, calling for the Inter-American Juridical Committee to investigate whether the Helms-Burton Act is consistent with international law.

June 11: Mexican President Zedillo expressed strong concerns about Helms-Burton in a speech to the Parliament of Canada while visiting Ottawa.

June 28: Canada and the U.S. held a meeting of the North American Free Trade Agreement Commission. Canada is now in a position to request a dispute settlement panel under the NAFTA should it feel this move is warranted.

July 15: U.S. President Clinton suspended the right of companies to sue under Helms-Burton for six months.

August 30: President Clinton's special envoy on Cuba, Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat, met with Ministers Axworthy and Eggleton in Ottawa.

September 16: The amendments to FEMA will be introduced in Parliament for first reading.

September 20: The FEMA amendments will undergo second reading. Ministers Axworthy and Eggleton will address Parliament.

November 1: Those who deal in expropriated property in Cuba will be considered to be in a position of legal liability, even though the right to sue has been suspended.

January 1997: U.S. President Clinton must announce whether to continue the suspension of the right to sue under Helms-Burton for another six months.

News Release

September 18, 1996

No. 164

JAPAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the Foreign Minister of Japan, Yukihiko Ikeda, will visit Canada from September 20 to 21.

"Canada is very pleased to host this visit by Mr. Ikeda, which affirms and strengthens the strong bonds that exist between our two countries," Mr. Axworthy said. "My colleagues and I will discuss a range of issues with Mr. Ikeda, including Canada's chairmanship of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation forum (APEC) in 1997, co-operation on peace and security, and Canada's efforts to promote an international ban on anti-personnel land mines."

Mr. Axworthy will host a working lunch for Mr. Ikeda and his officials, which will also be attended by Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan. Mr. Ikeda's schedule also includes meetings with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton.

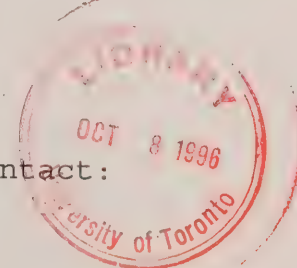
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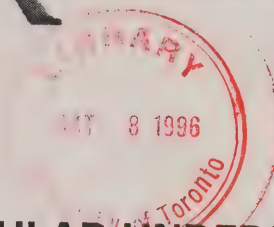


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News Release

September 19, 1996

No. 165



CANADA AND CHINA SIGN CONSULAR UNDERSTANDINGS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Mr. Qian Qichen, the Vice-Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, today signed two understandings on consular relations between Canada and the People's Republic of China.

The first understanding provides for Canada to retain its consular presence in Hong Kong, through its Consulate General, after the territory's transition to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997.

"Our continued presence in Hong Kong ensures that we can keep on providing consular services to Canadians who live, travel or do business there," said Mr. Axworthy. "Hong Kong is an important trading partner for Canada, and people-to-people ties complement and reinforce our commercial links. This understanding is part of our efforts to ensure a smooth transition in 1997."

The second understanding provides for the extension of the consular territories of Canadian consulates in China and Chinese consulates in Canada.

Under the terms of this understanding, the consular district of the Chinese Consulate General in Vancouver, which currently comprises the Province of British Columbia, will be extended to include the Province of Alberta and Yukon Territory. The consular district of the Chinese Consulate General in Toronto, which at present comprises the Province of Ontario, will expand to include the Province of Manitoba.

At the same time, Canada's Consulate General in Shanghai, which at present comprises Shanghai Municipality, Jiangsu Province and Zhejiang Province, will also include Anhui Province. The consular district of the Canadian Consulate in Guangzhou, which currently comprises Guangdong Province and Guangxi Zhuang Nationality Autonomous Region, will include Fujian Province and Hainan Province.



"These changes in consular responsibility will help our missions in China to provide improved service to Canadians," said Raymond Chan, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific), who witnessed the signing ceremony.

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News Release

September 19, 1996

No. 166

CANADA HOSTS INAUGURATION OF ARCTIC COUNCIL

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Ronald A. Irwin and Environment Minister Sergio Marchi today joined with representatives from the Arctic states and circumpolar Indigenous groups in Ottawa to inaugurate the Arctic Council. The eight Arctic member states signed the Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council.

"The Arctic and its future are too big for one country, one government or for one conference every few years. Canada has long wanted a permanent and organized way to reach other Arctic states about issues that affect the largest part of this country," said Mr. Axworthy, chair of the conference.

"The participation of indigenous groups in the Council is a very important accomplishment," noted Mr. Irwin, co-chair of the Canadian delegation. "This is the first time northerners have had such a direct role in determining the collective future of the Arctic."

"The Arctic is an environmental early warning system for our globe," said Mr. Marchi, also co-chair of the Canadian delegation. "The Arctic Council will help deliver that warning from pole to pole."

"The emerging sense of political, social and economic empowerment of the indigenous people of the Arctic has been acknowledged and elevated to an international level," said Secretary of State Ethel Blondin-Andrew. "In all Arctic issues there is a delicate balance to be achieved. Through the formal inclusion of indigenous people, the Arctic Council has struck that balance."

"The inauguration of the Council launches a new and exciting era in circumpolar and international co-operation," commented Mr. Jack Anawak, Member of Parliament for Nunatsiag. "I am extremely proud of the contribution made by Inuit and other northern Aboriginal peoples to the successful establishment of the Council."



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Following an afternoon plenary session, the Arctic Council Declaration was signed by the foreign ministers and senior representatives of Canada, Denmark (for Greenland), Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States. Also present were the three initial Permanent Participant groups: the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council (Scandinavia, Finland and Russia) and the Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation.

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Two backgrounders are attached.

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Backgrounder

DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

SUMMARY

The signatories desire to provide for regular intergovernmental consideration of and consultation on Arctic issues ensuring the well-being of the inhabitants of the Arctic, sustainable development and the protection of the environment.

The Declaration establishes an Arctic Council as a high-level intergovernmental forum made up of the eight Arctic states: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America.

The Declaration establishes the Arctic Council as a means to:

- promote co-operation and co-ordination of action on common Arctic issues, particularly sustainable development and environmental protection;
- oversee and co-ordinate the established programs of the Environmental Protection Strategy;
- oversee and co-ordinate a sustainable development program; and
- disseminate information, encourage education and promote interest in Arctic-related issues.

The Declaration names each of the eight Arctic states as Members and three Permanent Participants: the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council, and the Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation. The Declaration allows for further Permanent Participant status for other Arctic indigenous groups and Observer status for other non-Arctic countries, and intergovernmental and interparliamentary and non-governmental organizations.

The Declaration establishes that:

- the Council will meet at least biennially and all decisions will be by consensus by the Members; and
- the hosting of meetings of the Arctic Council, including secretariat support function, will rotate among the Arctic States.

Background

CANADA AND THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

The creation of an Arctic Council composed of the eight Arctic states was proposed formally by the Canadian government in 1989, although the concept dates back at least two decades. In April 1994, the Honourable André Ouellet stated Canada's commitment to reinvigorate the Arctic Council initiative, as part of the government's foreign policy platform.

In keeping with the priority it places on the establishment of an Arctic Council, Canada appointed an Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs, Mary Simon, on October 31, 1994.

In June 1995, officials of the eight Arctic countries began extensive discussions regarding the structure, objectives and programs of the proposed Council. At their last meeting in Ottawa on August 5 and 6, 1996, the Arctic countries' Senior Arctic Officials finalized the text of the Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council for ministerial approval.

The Arctic Council will be established as a high-level permanent intergovernmental forum to provide for co-operation, co-ordination and interaction among the Arctic states, the Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues. These include significant issues that go beyond environmental protection to include economic and social development, improved health conditions and cultural well-being. It is worth noting that the Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council ensures the balance between sustainable development and environmental protection.

The members of the Arctic Council are Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States (the Arctic states). In addition, Permanent Participant status will provide for the meaningful involvement of indigenous peoples in the deliberations and work of the Council. At the initial stage, Permanent Participants will include the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council, and Russia's Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation, which represent the majority of Arctic indigenous people.

The Council, which will operate on the basis of consensus of its members, will meet at the ministerial level biennially. The Chair and Secretariat of the Council will rotate concurrently every two years among the eight Arctic states, beginning with Canada in 1996.

The main activities of the Council will focus on the existing programs established under the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy and a new program dealing with economic, social and cultural issues.

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News Release

September 19, 1996

No. 167

AXWORTHY TO ATTEND 51ST SESSION OF UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will attend the 51st Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, September 24-26. The Minister will deliver Canada's speech to the General Assembly on the afternoon of September 24.

"Canada's international agenda is closely tied to the mandate of the UN. We continue our commitment to work with the organization on behalf of human rights, the welfare of the world's children, sustainable development, poverty alleviation, democratization, peace and disarmament – all elements of our larger objective of human security," said Mr. Axworthy. "I look forward to meeting with key UN officials and my counterparts from other member nations to review developments in these areas over the last year and to discuss priorities for 1997."

A highlight of this year's UNGA session will be the opening for signature of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Minister Axworthy will sign the Treaty on behalf of Canada on September 24.

Mr. Axworthy will also attend a meeting to discuss, among other issues, an update on the status of the Canadian study *Towards a Rapid Reaction Capability for the UN*, which was launched by Canada at last year's opening session of UNGA.

The Minister will meet with other foreign ministers of the Rio Group, an informal group of 14 members that consults on political issues related to Central and South America.

Minister Axworthy will also meet with representatives of the Core Group of nations and other countries which are supporting the International Strategy Conference on the global land mine crisis which is to be held in Ottawa, October 3-5.

While in New York, Mr. Axworthy will hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Singapore, Norway, Russia, Egypt, Mexico, South Africa, Spain and Korea, among others.



On September 29, he will attend a meeting of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group, which is seeking to promote the restoration of democracy in Nigeria, The Gambia and Sierra Leone.

Mr. Axworthy is one of six foreign ministers scheduled to speak at a special event organized by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on September 30. The gathering will mark the fifth anniversary of the World Summit for Children and assess progress on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the Summit.

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Minister Axworthy's UNGA program is attached.

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MINISTER AXWORTHY'S PROGRAM FOR UNGA 51

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1996

1500 hrs Background briefing by Canada's Permanent Representative to the UN, Mr. Robert Fowler, and senior Canadian officials regarding the Minister's speech to the General Assembly.
Location: Large Conference Room, Canadian Permanent Mission to the UN, One Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, 885 Second Avenue, 14th Floor, New York.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996

1000 hrs Minister signs the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty on behalf of Canada.
Location: UN Headquarters.

1630 hrs Minister addresses the 51st General Assembly. He will be the fourth speaker in the afternoon session, following Poland, Denmark and Japan.

1700 hrs Minister holds a news conference.
Location: UN Press Conference Room, #202.

Mr. Axworthy will hold bilateral meetings with the Foreign Ministers of Norway and Singapore on this day.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1996

0900 hrs Minister hosts a meeting of the Core Group of nations (Australia, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Philippines, South Africa) regarding the global ban on land mines. The United States, Russia, Japan and Brazil will also attend.

1015 hrs Minister meets with Dick Spring, Foreign Minister of Ireland, representing the EU Presidency and Sir Leon Britten, representing the European Commission.

1115 hrs Minister Axworthy and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart attend the Rio Group Annual Meeting, chaired by Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay.

1600 hrs Minister meets with UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Mr. Axworthy will hold bilateral meetings with the Foreign Ministers of Egypt, Mexico and Russia on this day.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

0800 hrs Minister attends a Canada-Australia-New Zealand breakfast hosted by Australia.

1100 hrs Minister attends a Friends of Rapid Reaction meeting.

2030 hrs Minister attends a dinner for G-7 members, plus Russia (P8).

Mr. Axworthy will hold bilateral meetings with the Foreign Ministers of Korea, South Africa and Spain on this day.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1996

The minister will attend a meeting of the Commonwealth Action Group (Canada, Ghana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and Zimbabwe) to discuss the restoration of democracy in Nigeria, The Gambia and Sierra Leone.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1996

0900 hrs Minister attends "Keeping the Promise," A Review of Progress on the Goals Set at the World Summit for Children. The Foreign Ministers of Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden will also attend to demonstrate their commitment to this issue.
Location: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UN Headquarters.

News Release

September 19, 1996

No. 168

AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR "NORTHERN ENCOUNTERS" ARCTIC CULTURAL FESTIVAL

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Arctic Council, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced his support for the new circumpolar arts festival, "Northern Encounters," to take place in Toronto in June 1997. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will contribute funding over the next two years to ensure the international character of the festival.

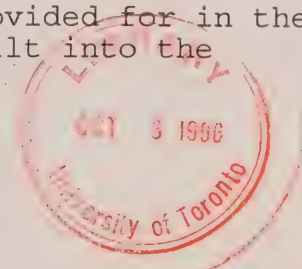
"Northern Encounters will showcase the contemporary and traditional music, arts and culture of Canada and the seven other members of the Arctic Council," said Mr. Axworthy. "Many of the festival performances seen by Canadians will also be broadcast by European Broadcasting Union members."

The festival's primary focus is on music and musical theatre, with associated events and exhibitions in dance, the visual arts, and science and technology. The month-long event will involve approximately 1 750 performing and visual artists in 40 venues throughout Metropolitan Toronto.

Participation is expected from Canada, Greenland (Denmark), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Siberia (the Russian Federation), Sweden and Alaska (the United States). The Nordic Council of Ministers, representing the five Scandinavian nations, has already committed almost C\$1.2 million to support the festival.

Funding of \$50 000 for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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News Release

September 19, 1996

No. 169

MINISTER AXWORTHY WELCOMES ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS OF GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the news that the Government of Guatemala has taken significant measures to clean up corruption, notably the removal from office of senior officials of the armed forces, the National Police and customs.

"When I met President Arzú and Foreign Minister Stein in Guatemala last week, they stressed the difficulties that corruption and crime are causing for their government," said Mr. Axworthy. "I assured them that Canada will do whatever it can to help them deal with corruption, narcotics trafficking and terrorism and to establish the rule of law."

Minister Axworthy added that the bold action against corruption taken by the Government of Guatemala this week is consistent with the commitment and energy that this administration has demonstrated on this issue. Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart added: "Efforts toward a final peace accord and this step to fight corruption head-on deserve the full support of the international community."

On September 12, Mr. Axworthy and Mrs. Stewart met Central American Ministers to follow up on Prime Minister Chrétien's May 1996 meeting with the Central American leaders. They discussed political and economic issues, including support for human rights and good governance and efforts to combat corruption, narcotics trafficking and terrorism.

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News Release

September 20, 1996

No. 170

CANADA SEEKS WTO PANEL ON BEEF GROWTH HORMONES



Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Ralph Goodale announced today that Canada will ask the World Trade Organization (WTO) for a dispute settlement panel on the European Union's ban on imports of beef produced with growth-promoting hormones.

Canada's request for a dispute settlement panel will be made formally to the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body on September 27, following unsuccessful consultations with the European Commission, the EU's administrative body. The EU implemented the import ban in 1989.

"The ban is unjustified," said Mr. Eggleton. "We believe it is not consistent with the European Union's obligations under the WTO. We will take full advantage of the dispute settlement process to fight this trade restriction."

"The European Union's ban effectively shuts Canada out of the European Union market," said Mr. Goodale. "It is not based on scientific evidence. Growth hormones pose no risk to human health when used properly. That has already been made clear by the Codex Alimentarius, the major international body on food safety standards."

The ban severely limits access to the EU market at a time when Canadian capacity to export beef is expanding. Canada has had extensive discussions with the European Commission since the ban.

The United States has also launched a separate panel case through the WTO.

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News Release

September 24, 1996

No. 171

EGGLETON TO MEET WITH "QUAD" TRADE MINISTERS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that he will attend the Quadrilateral Trade Ministers' Meeting, or "Quad," in Seattle, Washington on September 27-28, 1996.

The ministers' discussion will centre on preparations for the first Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Singapore in December. They are expected to review plans for the conference and consider areas for further trade liberalization and rule-making.

"We must do what we can to ensure that the Singapore meeting contributes to strengthening the world trading system," Mr. Eggleton said. "An effective, rules-based trading system is key to economic growth and job creation in Canada and in all countries."

Created in 1982, the Quad includes the ministers responsible for international trade from the European Union, Japan, the United States and Canada. It is an informal forum which meets twice yearly to discuss multilateral trade issues.

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News Release

September 24, 1996

No. 172

AXWORTHY ADDRESSES UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today delivered Canada's address to the 51st session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. In his speech, the Minister identified two major challenges facing the UN: the new and complex global agenda and the renewal of the organization to respond effectively to this agenda.

Minister Axworthy called on the member states of the UN to commit themselves to collectively work together in support of the UN and in support of advancing the key objective of "sustainable human security," both in the context of addressing more traditional military threats to peace and security and in response to new threats.

The Minister highlighted the importance of UN member states adapting to the changing needs of peacekeeping and peacebuilding with innovative approaches, such as the Canadian-led promotion of a UN rapid response capability, and other actions including preventive diplomacy, post-conflict reconstruction, and democratic institution-building. To assist these objectives, he announced that Canada will offer a roster of human rights experts available for rapid deployment as part of larger peacebuilding operations or for specialized human rights tasks.

He stressed the need to move forward in certain key areas such as disarmament, and noted that Canada had just signed today the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and was pushing for international support to ban anti-personnel land mines.

Among newer but equally deadly threats to sustainable human security, the Minister emphasized such issues as environmental degradation, terrorism, international crime and the growing gap between rich and poor. He argued that the road map is clear: now is the time for action.

Referring to the fact that 1998 will mark the 50th anniversary of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights, Minister Axworthy pointed to the need for better international co-operation on



human rights to advance sustainable human security, and singled out the plight of the world's children as a priority area for Canada. He called for greater co-ordination between the International Labour Organization and the World Trade Organization as a new approach in dealing with trade and labour standards.

Canada will also focus on co-operation to combat hate propaganda, in part through the use of new information technologies. He also called on the international community to help restore and sustain democracy around the world, citing Nigeria, Burundi, Haiti, and Burma in particular.

Finally, the Minister addressed the difficult but critical questions of UN financing and institutional reform, including the Security Council and the General Assembly.

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News Release

September 26, 1996

No. 173

AXWORTHY URGES ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN LEADERS TO RESTORE CALM

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed Canada's deep concern over the continued fighting in the West Bank and Gaza, which has claimed close to 60 lives and injured several hundred during the last three days. Mr. Axworthy plans to meet with Israeli representatives later today in New York. Senior Foreign Affairs officials conveyed the Government's views today to the Israeli Chargé d'Affaires and the Palestinian Delegate General in Ottawa.

Mr. Axworthy stated: "The recent Israeli actions taken in Jerusalem, as well as the decision to expand settlements, have been unhelpful to the Middle East peace process."

"I urge Israeli and Palestinian leaders to take immediate steps to restore calm," said Mr. Axworthy. "We are very anxious that the situation not deteriorate further." Mr. Axworthy also stressed the need for Israeli and Palestinian officials to resume direct negotiations and to refrain from measures that might lead to further violence.

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News Release

September 27, 1996

No. 174

INDIA'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, Inder Kumar Gujral, will visit Canada from September 29 to October 1. Mr. Gujral will be in Toronto on September 29 and 30, and in Ottawa on September 30 and October 1.

"Canada is very pleased to host this visit by Mr. Gujral, which builds on the expansion of our bilateral relationship resulting from the successful Team Canada mission to India last January," Mr. Axworthy said. "This relationship, rooted in our shared Commonwealth traditions and commitment to democracy, has been nurtured by strong people-to-people linkages and India's growing economic openness."

Mr. Axworthy will host Mr. Gujral's visit to Ottawa, which will also involve Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan. Mr. Gujral's schedule also includes a meeting with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien on September 30.

The visit will present an opportunity for high-level discussions on a variety of issues, including trade and economic matters, questions of peace and security, Canadian-Indian bilateral and international co-operation, and human rights.

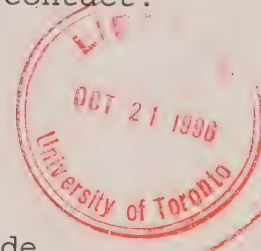
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News Release

September 27, 1996

No. 175

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER LAMPREIA TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Brazilian Foreign Minister Luiz Felipe Lampreia will visit Canada early next week. Mr. Lampreia will spend Monday, September 30, in Ottawa and Tuesday, October 1, in Toronto.

"I am pleased to have the opportunity to return the hospitality that Mr. Lampreia and his government extended to me during my visit to Brazil in May 1996," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada is committed to expanding its relationships within the hemisphere and in particular with Brazil, South America's largest and most populous country."

While in Ottawa, Mr. Lampreia will meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Minister Axworthy, and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew. On October 1, before leaving for Toronto, he will also meet with Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral trade.

Brazil is Canada's major trading partner in South America and Canada is seeking to expand this dynamic trading relationship. Canada-Brazil trade figures for 1995 reached \$2.3 billion, up from \$1.9 billion in 1994.

In Toronto, Mr. Lampreia will meet with members of the editorial board of *The Financial Post*. He will also attend a luncheon with representatives of the Canadian business community, hosted by Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart and organized by members of the Brazil-Canada Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Council of the Americas.

- 30 -

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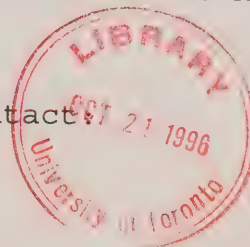
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News Release

September 30, 1996

No. 176

CANADA TO OPEN OFFICE IN PUNJAB'S CAPITAL

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada will establish a liaison office in Chandigarh, capital of India's Punjab State. Mr. Axworthy plans to open the office personally when he visits India early in the new year. This announcement was made during the visit to Canada of Inder Kumar Gujral, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India.

This office will support the commercial and immigration sections of the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi. Approximately 12 000 applications for Canadian visas originated in Punjab in 1995.

"A Canadian presence in Chandigarh will enable us to serve better the large number of immigrants and visitors to Canada from that region," said Mr. Axworthy. "It also reflects the important relationship that exists between Canada and India, and the normalization of conditions in Punjab."

"Canada has an Indo-Canadian population of about 500 000 – over 70 per cent of whom come from the Punjab State," said Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton. "This fact presents tremendous opportunity for increased trade and investment between Canada and India, particularly as India liberalizes its economic policies."

"This office will strengthen the people-to-people linkages between Canada and India, and thereby enhance the relationship between our two countries," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan.

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News Release

September 30, 1996

No. 177

AXWORTHY CALLS FOR RELEASE OF BURMESE DETAINEES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today called on Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) to release immediately all detained members of the National League for Democracy (NLD), and to allow the NLD party congress to be held without further interference or intimidation.

"This latest crackdown is further evidence that the international community needs to work harder and co-operatively to encourage Burma's military regime to commit itself to a genuine dialogue with Aung San Suu Kyi and the pro-democracy movement," said Mr. Axworthy. "This dialogue is an essential step toward national reconciliation and democratic reform in Burma."

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan called on the military regime "to stop its repressive tactics that prevent the people of Burma from exercising their basic political rights."

Canada has repeatedly expressed its concern over the actions taken by Burma's military rulers against Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and the pro-democracy movement. At the Jakarta ASEAN meetings last July, Mr. Axworthy proposed the establishment of a contact group under United Nations or other auspices, to open the lines of communication with the SLORC and make it more accountable to the international community.

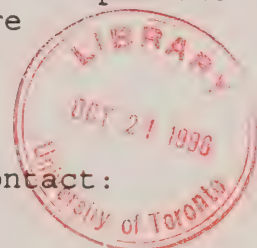
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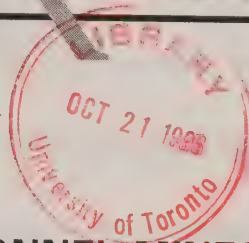
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News Release

October 1, 1996

No. 178



CANADA TO HOST ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES CONFERENCE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada will host an International Strategy Conference on anti-personnel (AP) mines in Ottawa, October 3-5.

"Last week at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, I hosted a meeting of countries that are interested in advancing the AP mines issue. I was struck by the tremendous momentum that is building against these terrible weapons," said Mr. Axworthy. "This conference is unique in that it will deal with all aspects of the issue – the ban, mine clearance and victim rehabilitation – in an integrated fashion. I am confident that our consultations will lay a solid foundation for the elimination of AP mines," he added.

Entitled "Towards a Global Ban on Anti-Personnel (AP) Mines," the Conference will bring together representatives of some 70 governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international agencies and the United Nations. The objective of the Conference is to raise the profile of the AP mines crisis and to direct international, regional and national action toward a global ban.

Individual governments will be represented by senior officials, and many of the delegations are expected to include representatives of NGOs active in the area of AP mines. Minister Axworthy, National Defence Minister David Collenette and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Pierre S. Pettigrew will be participating on behalf of the Government of Canada.

The Government of Canada is holding the Conference in collaboration with Mines Action Canada, a coalition representing



37 international development, peace, public health, human rights and faith NGOs.

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A preliminary calendar of media events is attached.

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PRELIMINARY CALENDAR OF MEDIA EVENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Launch of "Living with Landmines Simulation." Opening remarks by Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan.

Location: Agriculture Museum, Central Experimental Farm

Time: 1000 - 1100 hrs

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Launch of War Museum Exhibit. Ribbon-cutting ceremony to be attended by Minister of National Defence David Collenette and Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy.

Location: National War Museum

Time: 1200 - 1400 hrs

Background briefing for media by Ralph Lysyshyn, Director General, International Security Bureau, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Chair, International Strategy Conference.

Location: The Commonwealth Room, #238-S

Centre Block, Parliament Hill

Time: 1530 - 1630 hrs

Panel Discussion: "Exploitation or Explanation — Media Portrayals of the Landmine Crisis." Panelists include Chris Cushing (CARE Canada), Philip Winslow (former foreign correspondent), Juliet O'Neill (*Ottawa Citizen*) and Ken Rutherford and Mohammed Usman Fitrat (Landmine Survivors Network). Moderator: Connie Watson (CBC Radio).

Location: Sussex Room, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1900 - 2130 hrs

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of National Defence David Collenette open "Towards a Global Ban on Anti-Personnel (AP) Mines": International Strategy Conference. The Ministers will present opening remarks and will be followed by UN Under Secretary-General Yasushi Akashi and Chris Moon, representative of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines.

Location: Main Hall, Government Conference Centre

Time: 0900 - 1000 hrs

Information Exchange I: states will report on their national AP mines policies.

Chair: Canada

Location: Main Hall, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1015 - 1230 hrs

Stephen Lewis, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF, opens the Public Information Exhibits. Canadian singer/songwriter Bruce Cockburn scheduled to speak.

Location: Rideau Street Foyer, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1230 - 1315 hrs

NGO/Parliamentarians Consultations.

Part I: Roundtable. "Setting the Stage: AP Mines and the International Community." Panelists include Stephen Lewis (UNICEF); Steve Goose (International Campaign to Ban Landmines); Ken Rutherford (Landmines Survivors Network) and Senator Peter Bosa (International Parliamentary Union).

Location: Sussex Room, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1530 - 1645 hrs

NGO/Parliamentarians Consultations.

Part II: Strategy Session. "NGO-Parliamentarian Agenda for Action." Panelists include Senator Patrick Leahy (USA); Ernie Regehr (Project Ploughshares); Jan Willem Bertens (European Parliament).

Chair: Francis LeBlanc, Member of Parliament (Canada) and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Location: Sussex Room, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1700 - 1800 hrs

Public Mines Awareness and Fund-Raising Concert featuring Ashley MacIsaac.

Location: Ottawa Civic Centre

Time: 2000 - 2300 hrs

*Cost: \$26.75 - Tickets available at the door or call
1-800-361-4595*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

Open Session. Panel Presentation I: "Towards a Global Ban on AP Mines." Panelists include Cornelio Sommaruga, International Committee of the Red Cross; H.E. Ambassador Johan Molander (Sweden); Senator Patrick Leahy (USA) and Stephen Lewis, UNICEF.

Chair: Honourable Christine Stewart, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa)

Location: Main Hall, Government Conference Centre

Time: 0830 - 1030 hrs

Information Exchange II: discussion of regional actions to support a global ban.

Location: Main Hall, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1100 - 1230 hrs

NGO/Academic Panel. Panelists include Don Hubert (Dalhousie University); Peter Herby (Legal Division, International Committee of the Red Cross); Noala Skinner (Kings College, Cambridge); Calib Rossiter (Demilitarization for Democracy) and David Gowdey (author of *Hidden Killers*).

Moderator: Perez Morangi Nyamwange, POVOADA (Canada-Angola NGO)

Location: Sussex Room, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1430 - 1730 hrs

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Panel Presentation II: "An Integrated Approach to the AP Mine Challenge." Panelists include Hans Klingenburg (Foreign Ministry, Denmark); Jerry White (Landmines Survivors Network); Ed Tsui (UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs) and Linda Tripp (Mines Action Canada).

Chair: Australia

Location: Main Hall, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1300 - 1500 hrs

Closing session to be attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of National Defence David Collenette.

Location: Main Hall, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1530 - 1630 hrs

Wrap-up news conference.

Location: Sussex Room, Government Conference Centre

Time: 1630 - 1700 hrs

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News Release

October 1, 1996

No. 179

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointment of **Michael B. Phillips**, Assistant Deputy Minister, United States Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, as Ambassador to Ireland.

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A biographical note on the appointee is attached.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Michael B. Phillips (B.A., University of Saskatchewan, 1962; LL.B, University of Saskatchewan, 1964), born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1965 and served abroad in Addis Ababa, Dublin and Nairobi. From 1983 to 1988 he served in London as Minister for Political and Public Affairs and from 1991 to 1995 he was Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden with concurrent accreditations to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. In Ottawa, Mr. Phillips has served three times in the Legal Bureau rising to serve as Assistant Director General in 1980. He was Senior Departmental Assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs from 1981 to 1983. He has since performed a series of high-level functions at headquarters including Director General, Foreign Policy and General Communications Bureau; Assistant Deputy Minister, United States Relations Branch, and since 1995, Assistant Deputy Minister, United States Branch. Mr. Phillips is married to Oonagh Mary Phillips and they have two children. Mr. Phillips succeeds Barry Mawhinney.

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News Release

October 3, 1996

No. 180

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EGGLETON INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT CANADA-ISRAEL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today introduced legislation to implement the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.

"The introduction of this bill marks a significant step toward the implementation of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement," said Mr. Eggleton. "In order to remain competitive in the international marketplace, it is essential that Canada continue to liberalize its trade."

"This Agreement will open doors for Canadian companies and ultimately increase exports and create jobs at home. Once the Agreement is implemented, Canadian exporters will be on an equal footing with their U.S. and European competitors, who now have the benefit of free trade agreements with Israel."

The main elements of the Agreement are as follows:

- Tariffs will be removed from industrial products of Canadian or Israeli origin beginning January 1, 1997. Only women's swimwear, at Canada's request, and certain cotton fabric, at Israel's request, will continue to be subject to tariffs, although these tariffs will be phased out over the first two and a half years.
- Duty-free access or low duties will be applied to a variety of agricultural and fisheries products exported by both countries. For Canada, such items include grains, grain products, beef, maple sugar, alcoholic beverages and various processed foods. Both sides have excluded dairy, poultry and egg products. Renewed discussions are to be held within two years, however, with the aim of further liberalizing agri-food trade.
- To resolve any disputes under the Agreement, both countries have agreed to be governed by a binding dispute settlement process.



Once both Canada and Israel have advised each other that their respective legislative processes have been completed, the Agreement will come into force. If the implementation process is complete on both sides by the end of this year, the Agreement will take effect on January 1, 1997.

It remains Canada's intention to extend the same benefits to the Palestinians that Israel will enjoy under the Free Trade Agreement. Canada intends to conduct discussions with Palestinian officials to examine the next step in this process.

Additional information on the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement is available through the Internet under "international business development" at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> or through FaxLink at (613) 944-4500. Information is also available upon request through the InfoCentre by telephone at (613) 944-4000 and by fax at (613) 996-9709.

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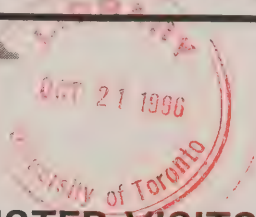
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News Release

October 3, 1996

No. 181



ROMANIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER VISITS CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania, His Excellency Teodor Viorel Melescanu, will pay an official visit to Canada on October 3 and 4.

Mr. Melescanu will meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to convey a message from President Ion Iliescu on the expansion of NATO and to discuss bilateral relations.

Mr. Melescanu will also meet with Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Minister of Industry John Manley.

"We plan to use this visit to strengthen our relations with Romania, emphasizing business and the diversification of our trade," Mr. Axworthy said.

The Minister congratulated Romanian authorities on signing the treaty on concord, co-operation and good neighbourliness between Romania and Hungary. "This treaty will pave the way for closer co-operation, both regionally and internationally."

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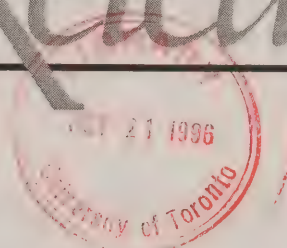


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News Release

October 4, 1996

No. 182



CANADA WINS FIRST WTO APPEAL RULING IN JAPAN LIQUOR TAX CASE

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today welcomed a ruling by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Appellate Body requesting that Japan change its liquor tax regime to remove barriers to imports of a wide variety of distilled liquor products ranging from whiskey to gin. It is the first Appellate Body ruling involving Canada.

"I am very pleased with this ruling, a first for Canada," said Mr. Eggleton. "It will end a long-standing dispute and we expect that it will lead to higher Canadian exports to the Japanese distilled liquor market. I urge Japan to carry out the ruling quickly."

Currently, distilled liquor such as Canadian whiskey is taxed at significantly higher rates than competing Japanese distilled spirits such as shochu.

A 1987 panel under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) upheld a complaint by the European Commission that Japan's liquor tax law gave a competitive advantage to Japanese distilled liquor. Japan made changes to its law, but there continued to be a preferential rate for shochu. This led to consultations between Japan and Canada, the United States (U.S.), and the European Union (EU) and ultimately a case before a WTO dispute settlement panel.

The dispute settlement panel ruled in favour of Canada, the U.S. and the EU in July, and its ruling was upheld today in a report by the WTO Appellate Body.

Under WTO rules, the Appellate Body report must be adopted within 30 days of being circulated to WTO members. Japan will then have



30 days to notify the WTO Dispute Settlement Body of its plans on implementing the report's recommendation.

- 30 -

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News Release

October 5, 1996

No. 183

CANADA OFFERS TO HOST TREATY CONFERENCE TO SIGN BAN ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he has invited government representatives at a major strategy conference on anti-personnel (AP) mines in Ottawa to confer with their foreign ministers on the possibility of attending an AP mines ban treaty-signing conference to be hosted by Canada in December 1997.

"Over the last few days, representatives of 70 governments, non-governmental organizations, and multilateral agencies, and private citizens, have told us that this gathering has added greatly to the momentum to ban AP mines," said Minister Axworthy. "If the will is there, and we believe it is, we are offering to host an AP mine ban treaty-signing conference in December 1997 as a sign of our commitment to the ban."

The Minister noted that the Ottawa Conference had brought together a wide range of participants. "We have all been struck by the dedication and dynamism brought to the discussions by those whose lives have been directly affected by AP mines. They have reminded us that the issue of AP mines is one of human, not military, security. Their compelling stories challenge our sense of collective responsibility to eliminate these terrible weapons."

The Ottawa conference concluded with the adoption of the "Ottawa Declaration" and a Chairman's "Agenda for Action," which lists a number of global, regional and national activities designed to advance a global ban on AP mines.

To begin, the consensus reached in Ottawa will contribute directly to a resolution promoting an international agreement to ban AP mines at the 51st Session of the United Nations General Assembly. Other events listed include a meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS) at the end of October and a conference on developing Canadian capacities in de-mining and providing humanitarian assistance to victims, to be held in Winnipeg early next year. As well, there will be a Fourth International Conference on Land Mines, to be held in Maputo, Mozambique, February 1997, and a meeting on improving AP mine clearance technology in Tokyo in March 1997. Belgium will host a follow-up to the Ottawa conference in June 1997.

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TOWARDS A GLOBAL BAN ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

DECLARATION OF THE OTTAWA CONFERENCE

Following consultations with relevant international agencies, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations, the states represented at the Ottawa conference, the "Ottawa Group," have agreed to enhance co-operation and co-ordination of efforts on the basis of the following concerns and goals with respect to anti-personnel mines:

1. a recognition that the extreme humanitarian and socio-economic costs associated with the use of anti-personnel mines requires urgent action on the part of the international community to ban and eliminate this type of weapon.
2. a conviction that until such a ban is achieved, states must work to encourage universal adherence to the prohibitions or restrictions on anti-personnel mines as contained in the amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.
3. an affirmation of the need to convince mine-affected states to halt all new deployments of anti-personnel mines to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations.
4. a recognition that the international community must provide significantly greater resources to mine-awareness programs, mine-clearance operations, and victim assistance.
5. a commitment to work together to ensure:
 - the earliest possible conclusion of a legally binding international agreement to ban anti-personnel mines;
 - progressive reductions in new deployments of anti-personnel mines with the urgent objective of halting all new deployments of anti-personnel mines;

- support for a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 51 Resolution calling upon member states, inter alia, to implement national moratoria, bans or other restrictions, particularly on the operational use and transfer of anti-personnel mines at the earliest possible date;
- regional and sub-regional activities in support of a global ban on anti-personnel mines; and
- a follow-up conference hosted by Belgium in June 1997 to review the progress of the international community in achieving a global ban on anti-personnel mines.

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TOWARDS A GLOBAL BAN ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

**International Strategy Conference
Ottawa, October 3-5, 1996**

CHAIRMAN'S AGENDA FOR ACTION ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

Participants at the Ottawa conference have reaffirmed their commitment to seek the earliest possible conclusion of a legally binding agreement to ban the production, stockpiling, transfer and use of Anti-Personnel (AP) mines. This agreement will be achieved most rapidly through increased co-operation within the international community.

The purpose of the Ottawa conference was to catalyze practical efforts to move toward a ban and create partnerships between states, international organizations and agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) essential to building the necessary political will to achieve a global ban on AP mines.

The following Agenda for Action captures the dynamism of the discussions in Ottawa — the recognition that movement toward a global ban has already begun — and details concrete activities to be undertaken by the international community — on an immediate and urgent basis — to build upon the Ottawa Declaration and to move this process ahead in preparation for the follow-up meeting that will be hosted by Belgium in 1997.

This Agenda for Action reflects the interrelationship of the global-ban, mine-clearance and victim-assistance agendas. It highlights the need to reach out beyond those who are already committed to engage the broader international community in the global ban effort. It also recognizes that action must be taken at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels to achieve a rapid global ban on AP mines.

A. Global Action

Building the necessary political will for a new, legally binding international agreement banning AP mines will require more nations to adopt national bans or moratoria on the production, stockpiling, use and transfer of AP mines. Nations that are not AP mine producers should also consider adopting bans on the imports of AP mines.

These actions will also have the effect of reducing the total number of new deployments of AP mines — deployments that would create new victims and increase the costs of mine-clearance operations.

Global actions suggested by participants at this conference include:

1. The passage of a **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 51 Resolution** promoting an international agreement to ban AP mines.

Recognizing that a key vehicle for building international support for a global ban will be the development of overwhelming support for the resolution being proposed by the United States at the current session of the General Assembly, the participants identified the following activities as key opportunities to develop political support for the resolution:

- "potential co-sponsors" meeting - 10 October, New York (4 pm, UN Conference Room 9)
- Inter-Parliamentary Union Meeting at the UN - 22 October
- Parliamentarians for Global Action - Annual General Meeting, October, New York
- Land Mine Panel, NGO Committee on Disarmament, 24 October, New York
- Work in regional or sub-regional groupings, as well as bilaterally, to build support for the resolution

2. Build public awareness and political will for a global AP mine ban.

Building increased public awareness of the social, economic and human costs of AP mines is essential to develop and sustain the necessary political will for a global AP mine ban. Opportunities for building political will and public awareness include:

- Launch of the Machel Study in response to Resolution A/RES/48/157 of the 48th session of UNGA on the Impact of Armed Conflict (and Land Mines) on Children, at the UN, New York, and by Archbishop Tutu in South Africa - 11 November, 1996
- Adoption of the Machel Report by the UNGA and implementation of its recommendations
- Reports on progress in the development of national AP mines policies in national reporting on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to the Geneva-based Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Engaging military experts in the study of the military utility/humanitarian costs of AP mine use
- Adding the AP mine issue to the agenda of appropriate United Nations forums

3. Encourage rapid entry into force and universal adherence to the prohibitions and restrictions on AP mines as contained in the amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

4. Increased exchanges of information and data on AP mines and national AP mine policies to build the confidence and transparency necessary for rapid progress toward a global AP mine ban, including:

- The development and publication of a global data-base on national AP mine policies (to be circulated by Canada in the fall of 1996)

- Studies by experts on the international production and legal and illicit trade of AP mines

5. To lay the necessary groundwork for a legally binding international agreement to ban AP mines, Austria will produce a first draft and Canada will produce a possible framework for the verification of such an agreement.

6. Suggested **follow-up conferences** to the Ottawa conference include:

- Belgium, June 1997
- Norway, Germany, Switzerland

B. Regional Action

Actions at the sub-regional and regional levels will be instrumental in catalyzing the development of political will for a global ban on AP mines. To build upon the recent decision by the Central American Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs to ban the production, use and trade in AP mines — thus creating the world's first regional AP mine-free zone — participants at the conference suggested the following actions:

Increased funding for mine clearance and victim assistance for those regions and sub-regions that have taken concrete steps to create "AP mine-free zones."

Within Africa:

- Efforts to enhance the de-mining capacities of African countries with priority given to heavily mine-affected countries. This will include a Conference of African Experts in De-mining and Assistance to Victims of Land Mines (1997)
- Meetings to engage military/national security experts on AP mines issues at the sub-regional level, including an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) seminar in Southern Africa (1997)

- 4th International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL)
Conference: Toward a Mine-Free [Southern] Africa, Feb 25-28, 1997, Maputo, Mozambique
- Work toward the implementation of the three-part program of the Union Inter-african des droits de l'homme

Within Asia:

- Meetings to engage military/national security experts on AP mines issues at the sub-regional level, including a planned ICRC/Philippines seminar (proposed for the first half of 1997)
- ICBL Conference, 1998
- Work toward consideration of AP mine issues within the ASEAN Regional Framework (ARF), including an ARF intersessional meeting on De-mining for UN Peacekeepers, to be held in New Zealand in March/April 1997

Within the Americas:

- Defence Ministerial of the Americas, Bariloche, Argentina, October 6-9 — seek support for follow-up to the Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly Resolution on "The Western Hemisphere as an Anti-personnel Land Mine-free Zone"
- Special meeting at the end of October or early November 1996 of the OAS committee on Hemispheric Security to promote implementation of OAS General Assembly Resolution "The Western Hemisphere as an Anti-personnel Land Mine-Free Zone," including:
 - information exchanges on national AP mine policies
 - provision of information to establish a hemispheric AP mine registry
- Regional ICBL Conference - Fall 1997

- Possible discussion in the Rio Group on AP mines under the topic of conventional arms control
- Meetings to engage military authorities on AP mines issues at the regional and sub-regional level
- Include anti-personnel land mines trade in discussions on illicit traffic in arms
- Encourage development of confidence-building measure regimes to replace AP mines in border areas.

Within Europe:

- Implementation by the European Union (EU) of the joint action on AP mines adopted by the EU on 1 October 1996, in which the EU clearly asserts its determination to pursue the total elimination of AP mines. To this end:
 - the EU will pursue efforts to ensure full implementation of the results of the Review Conference of the 1980 Convention on the one hand, and support for international efforts to ban AP mines on the other hand;
 - the EU is committed to the goal of the total elimination of AP mines and shall work actively toward the achievement at the earliest possible date of an effective international agreement to ban these weapons worldwide;
 - the EU shall seek to raise without delay the issue of a total ban in the most appropriate international forum;
 - the Member States of the EU shall implement a common moratorium on the export of all AP mines to all destinations and shall refrain from issuing new licences for the transfer of technology to enable the manufacture of AP mines in third countries;

- EU Member States shall endeavour to implement national restrictions or bans additional to those contained in Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons;
- the EU will reinforce its contribution to international mine clearance. A budget of 7 million ECU is to be provided for initiatives to be launched in the period up to the end of 1997, in the form of contributions to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for assistance in mine clearance and/or specific EU actions providing assistance for mine clearance in response to the request of a regional organization or a third country's authorities. In addition, the Commission of the European Community intends to continue the Community's support for activity in the field of mine clearance in the context of humanitarian aid, reconstruction and development co-operation.
- The EU will invite the associate countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the associate countries Cyprus and Malta and the European Free Trade Area (EFTA) country members of the European Economic Area to align themselves with initiatives taken in pursuit of the aims of its joint action.
- Support will be sought within the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) for participating states to work toward a ban on all AP mines as soon as possible.
- In addition, other European countries
 - have taken concrete steps in terms of destroying their stocks of AP mines or have made decisions to do so within a specific time-frame,
 - are introducing national legal regulations prohibiting exports and imports of AP mines and their components,
 - are strengthening their capacity to carry out de-mining activities,

- are making contributions to strengthen the ability of the UN to initiate and co-ordinate de-mining activities in other regions, and
- in the field of developing de-mining technology, Norway has started a pilot mine-clearance program in the former Yugoslavia utilizing a new mechanical mine-clearance machine

C. Land Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Victim Assistance

Delegates highlighted the need to take special action to deal with the humanitarian crisis caused by AP mines, while recognizing that without a ban, mine-clearance and victim-assistance programs will always be insufficient to deal with the crisis.

In this regard, in addition to the announcement by many states of increased financial commitments to clearance, awareness and assistance efforts, the following specific initiatives and ideas were discussed to foster international technical co-operation and to make further progress to improve and share mine-clearance technology, equipment and expertise; to improve mine-awareness efforts and to enhance victim-assistance programs. These initiatives include:

- Meeting of Technical Experts on De-mining Technology in preparation for the Tokyo meeting - Germany, early 1997
- Development of Canadian capacities in humanitarian de-mining and assistance to victims - Winnipeg, Canada - early 1997
- De-mining and victim assistance - Tokyo, March 1997
- Co-operation on victim assistance (offer by Canada-Mexico, Cuba, and South Africa of their expertise)
- Increased international co-operation in AP mine stockpile destruction

- Efforts to develop standard procedures for mine-awareness education
- Include consideration of humanitarian mine clearance within peace accords
- Strengthen the efforts by Central America to achieve a land-mine free zone by the year 2000
- Establishment of a centre at James Madison University to act as a database to assist in co-ordinating international de-mining efforts
- Submission by the Presidency of the European Union of an UNGA 51 Resolution on assistance with mine clearance

In addition to the above, a number of countries indicated that other events are being planned and that appropriate details will soon be forthcoming.

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News Release

October 7, 1996

No. 184

EGGLETON PRESENTS 1996 CANADA EXPORT AWARDS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today presented the 1996 Canada Export Awards to 10 Canadian companies, selected from 251 candidates, for their outstanding export accomplishments. A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to SR Telecom of Saint-Laurent, Quebec, marking the company's third Canada Export Award. The presentation ceremony was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in conjunction with the first annual convention of the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters Canada.

This year, the **Advantage*** portfolio of services of the alliance of Canada's full-service telecommunications companies became a corporate sponsor of the Canada Export Awards. Under the theme Partners in Trade, **Advantage** joins Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) and Export Development Corporation (EDC) as official sponsors of the program.

"It is a great pleasure to stand alongside these three distinguished sponsors of this year's Canada Export Awards as we publicly recognize the dedication, perseverance and innovativeness of these export achievers. Their contributions to economic growth and job creation in Canada is indeed worthy of admiration," said Minister Eggleton.

"With 37 per cent of our gross domestic product and one out of three jobs in Canada dependent upon exports, it is essential that we encourage and assist Canadian companies in their export endeavours. We, in government, are refocussing our efforts to meet the needs of Canadian businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, by providing them with accessible and responsive programs and services. Through the Team Canada partnership between governments and the private sector we will continue to succeed at home and abroad."

This year, as in previous years, Canada's geographical and industrial diversity is well represented, with winning companies from coast to coast and products ranging from sophisticated communications equipment to unique recreational and sports products.

* **Advantage** is a trademark of Bell Canada.

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A list of the 1996 Canada Export Award Winners is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874

or

Nicole Bourget
Director of Communications
Office of the Minister for International Trade
(613) 996-6271

1996 CANADA EXPORT AWARD WINNERS

***SR Telecom Inc.**

Saint-Laurent, Quebec

Acadian Seaplants Limited

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

AULT International

Etobicoke, Ontario

AZTECH New Media Corp.

Don Mills, Ontario

Bombardier Aerospace

Dorval, Quebec

CAE Electronics Limited

Saint-Laurent, Quebec

Cognos Incorporated

Ottawa, Ontario

Glegg Water Conditioning, Inc.

Guelph, Ontario

Loewen Windows

Steinbach, Manitoba

Option Snowboards

Vancouver, British Columbia

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News Release

October 8, 1996

No. 185

CANADA CONDEMNS BOMBING IN LISBURN, NORTHERN IRELAND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today condemned yesterday's double bombing at the British Army Headquarters in Lisburn, Northern Ireland and reiterated Canadian government support for the efforts of the British and Irish governments to find a just and lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

"Canada strongly condemns this attack and calls again on the IRA to reinstate its truce, which would enable Sinn Fein to participate in the Multi-Party talks and contribute to the climate necessary for the peace process to succeed," said Mr. Axworthy.

"Democratic and non-violent means, particularly the all-party negotiations for a permanent settlement in Northern Ireland, should be used to achieve peace and reconciliation. These talks represent the best opportunity to advance the peace process and to establish a just and enduring peace. We urge that the negotiators continue, and not be undermined by the bombing," the Minister added.

Mr. Axworthy extended his sincere sympathy to the many victims of the Lisburn attack and to their families.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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News Release

October 9, 1996

No. 186

EGGLETON TRAVELS TO POLAND AND RUSSIA TO PROMOTE TRADE AND INVESTMENT

International Trade Minister Art Eggleton will visit Poland from October 13 to 15 and Russia from October 15 to 19 to strengthen trade and investment ties and underscore Canada's strong support for ongoing economic reform in the region.

The Minister will be accompanied by 25 to 30 major companies in Poland, and approximately 50 in Russia.

"Developing and expanding our trade is the key to job creation and economic growth in Canada," said Mr. Eggleton. "I am very pleased that leading Canadian companies will be vigorously pursuing trade and investment opportunities during this visit."

The Minister added that it is important to promote Canadian technology and expertise in these significant European markets. "Poland and Russia are undergoing extensive economic reforms. Canadian companies are finding valuable clients and partners in both nations."

In Poland, the Minister will meet with senior government ministers and officials to promote Canadian business interests. He will address the Canada-Poland Business Club and attend a round table discussion, hosted by Poland's Minister for Foreign Economic Relations, for the Canadian business delegation.

In Russia, Mr. Eggleton will meet a variety of political and business leaders in Moscow and St. Petersburg, including the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Trade, Oleg Davydov. He will also co-chair the second annual meeting of the Canada-Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC) with Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Zaveryukha.

The commission was inaugurated by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Russian Prime Minister Victor S. Chernomyrdin in Ottawa in October 1995 to promote trade and economic co-operation. Business people representing several economic sectors in Canada and Russia will attend the meeting.



Mr. Eggleton will also announce a technical co-operation project that will provide the Hermitage Museum with special screens, made in Canada, that will protect the collection from the harmful effects of the sun. Local officials and members of the business and arts communities will attend the announcement.

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A list of companies participating in the visit is attached.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

**MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
VISIT TO POLAND**

BUSINESS DELEGATION

**BOMBARDIER REGIONAL AEROSPACE
DIVISION**
Downsview, Ontario

CADIM INC.
Montreal, Quebec

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD
Winnipeg, Manitoba

CERAMICS PROTECTION CORP.
Calgary, Alberta

CIBC/WOOD GUNDY
London, United Kingdom

**CMHC (CANADA MORTGAGE AND
HOUSING CORPORATION)**
Ottawa, Ontario

**EBRD (EUROPEAN BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT)**
London, United Kingdom

**(EDC) EXPORT DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**
Ottawa, Ontario

EICON TECHNOLOGY LTD.
Middlesex, United Kingdom

**THE FOUNDATION COMPANY OF
CANADA INC.**
Scarborough, Ontario

GANDALF POLSKA LTD.
Warsaw, Poland

HORSHAM PROPERTIES
Berlin, Germany

MCCAIN FOODS LIMITED
Florenceville, New Brunswick
Brussels, Belgium

MEROL POWER CORP.
Barry's Bay, Ontario

MIDLAND WALWYN CAPITAL INC.
Toronto, Ontario

NEWBRIDGE NETWORKS CORP.
Ottawa, Ontario

NITREX METAL INC.
Saint-Laurent, Quebec

NORTHERN TELECOM LIMITED
Ottawa, Ontario

PATERSON, GRANT & WATSON LIMITED
CONSULTING GEOPHYSICISTS
Toronto, Ontario

PLAINTREE SYSTEMS
Stittsville, Ontario

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA EUROPE LTD.
London, United Kingdom

SCOTIAN HOMES LTD.
Enfield, Nova Scotia

**SHERIDAN ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY
INSTITUTE**
Oakville, Ontario

TECSULT-EDUPLUS
Ottawa, Ontario

TELEGLOBE INTERNATIONAL INC.
McLean, Virginia

TERON INC.
Ottawa, Ontario

ZENON SYSTEMS KFT.
Hungary office

**MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
VISIT TO RUSSIA**

BUSINESS DELEGATION

ALCAN CANADA-VOSTOK

Ottawa, Ontario

ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LTD.

Mississauga, Ontario

ATS AEROSPACE INC.

St. Bruno, Quebec

BAYSWATER CONSULTING

Ottawa, Ontario

**BOMBARDIER REGIONAL AIRCRAFT
DIVISION**

Montreal, Quebec

CANADIAN FRACMASTER LTD.

Calgary, Alberta

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

Winnipeg, Manitoba

CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE

Toronto, Ontario

RONALD A. CHISHOLM LTD.

Toronto, Ontario

CONSTRUCT QUEBEC

Montreal, Quebec

COREL CORPORATION

Ottawa, Ontario

DBE INTERNATIONAL INC.

Concord, Ontario

DMR GROUP

Montreal, Quebec

DRECO ENERGY SERVICES LTD.

Edmonton, Alberta

EMERGING MARKETS ADVISORS

Toronto, Ontario

**EBRD (EUROPEAN BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT)**
London, United Kingdom

FERGUSON SIMEK CLARK

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

**FLINT ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION
LTD.**

Calgary, Alberta

FOREMOST INDUSTRIES LTD.

Calgary, Alberta

GOODMAN AND CARR

Toronto, Ontario

GOWLING STRATHY & HENDERSON

Ottawa, Ontario

GROLAY ENTERPRISES LTD.

Toronto, Ontario

GROUPE INTERNATIONAL DÉSOURDY INC.

Saint-Hubert, Quebec

IMI DIAGNATECH INC.

Mississauga, Ontario

IMP GROUP INTERNATIONAL

Halifax, Nova Scotia

INTERMAP TECHNOLOGY LTD.

Nepean, Ontario

KNUD SIMONSEN INDUSTRIES LTD.

Rexdale, Ontario

MACLEOD DIXON

Moscow, Russia

MDS AERO SUPPORT CORP.

Saint-Laurent, Quebec

MOLSON BREWERIES

Toronto, Ontario

MONITUS DIGITAL COMMUNICATION CORP.
Ottawa, Ontario

VIA PAX
Brampton, Ontario

NEWBRIDGE NETWORKS CORP.
Kanata, Ontario

WESTERN AG LIMITED
Toronto, Ontario

NOREX PETROLEUM LTD.
Calgary, Alberta

YORK UNIVERSITY
North York, Ontario

NORTEL LTD.
Ottawa, Ontario

PLD TELEKOM INC.
Toronto, Ontario

PRATT & WHITNEY CANADA
Longueuil, Quebec

PRO SOYA INC.
Ottawa, Ontario

RUSSINTER INTERNATIONAL
Ste-Foy, Quebec

SASKATCHEWAN WHEAT POOL
Vancouver, British Columbia

SCI-TECH VENTURES ASSOCIATES
Toronto, Ontario

SEMEX CANADA
Kemptville, Ontario

SNC-LAVALIN GROUPE INC.
Montreal, Quebec

SOUTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY
Calgary, Alberta

TERON INTERNATIONAL
Ottawa, Ontario

TRADE FACILITATION OFFICE CANADA
Ottawa, Ontario

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH & WATERLOO-
LAURIER-GUELPH CENTRE
Guelph, Ontario

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR
Windsor, Ontario

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News Release

October 9, 1996

No. 187

OCT 21 1996

City of Toronto

CANADA SIGNS PARTNERSHIP DECLARATION WITH MOROCCO

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton today announced the signing of a Canada-Morocco Partnership Declaration designed to promote bilateral trade and investment. The Declaration marked the end of a two-day meeting of the Canada-Morocco Bilateral Commission. It was signed for Canada by Mr. Eggleton and for Morocco by Mr. Taib Fassi-Fihri, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation. Mr. Fassi-Fihri co-chaired the Ottawa-held Bilateral Commission meeting.

"Canada's relations with Morocco are poised to enter a new phase of maturity and growth," stated Mr. Eggleton. "The remarkable economic and political reforms implemented by the Moroccan government have allowed the emergence of a growing and dynamic private sector. The expansion of two-way trade and investment will complement our strong ties in the areas of development co-operation and education."

This was the fifth meeting of the Commission, giving both countries' delegates an opportunity to exchange views on a broad range of bilateral relations, as well as to finalize the terms of the Canada-Morocco Partnership Declaration.

The Commission also saw progress in a number of areas intended to boost relations, most notably: continued bilateral negotiations on a Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement; negotiations on a revision of the long-standing bilateral agreement on development co-operation, to provide greater emphasis on Canadian International Development Agency support for the Moroccan private sector; and confirmation of the terms of an agreement on social security.

During his stay in Canada, Mr. Fassi-Fihri also met with Don Boudria, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie. The two Ministers reviewed current and planned bilateral development co-operation initiatives. They also discussed the forthcoming meeting of the Preparatory Ministerial Conference for the Francophonie Summit. The Conference will be held in Morocco in December.



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Mr. Fassi-Fihri was also guest of honour at the "Forum des affaires canado-marocain" held in Montreal on October 7. He attended the Forum along with a delegation of more than 20 Moroccan business representatives. This event was designed to acquaint the Canadian business community with current economic and commercial developments in Morocco, namely the opportunities created by the privatization program and revisions to the country's investment regime. It also promoted trade and investment partnerships between both business communities.

Mr. Fassi-Fihri's visit to Canada ends October 10.

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News Release

October 11, 1996

No. 188

CANADA CONGRATULATES NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNERS OF EAST TIMOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today congratulated Bishop Carlos Belo and José Ramos Horta, of East Timor, on receiving the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize. In letters to the two winners, Mr. Axworthy praised their tireless efforts in pursuing peace and justice in East Timor.

"Canada echoes the sentiment of many countries in hoping that the awarding of the Peace Prize to Bishop Belo and Mr. Horta will help further the process toward a peaceful settlement to the conflict in East Timor," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada has been supportive of UN-sponsored talks between Portugal and Indonesia to achieve an internationally acceptable resolution of the East Timor question. Canada has also supported the All-Inclusive Intra-Timorese Dialogue in which both Bishop Belo and Mr. Horta have actively participated.

Canada has been providing assistance to improve conditions for the East Timorese population through development co-operation programs, including community and rural development projects. East Timor is a former Portugese colony that was annexed by Indonesia in 1976.

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News Release

October 15, 1996

No. 189

EGGLETON TRADE MISSION EXPANDS BUSINESS LINKS WITH POLAND

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, met key Polish officials and business leaders today during a two-day visit to Poland aimed at increasing business and trade links. He is accompanied by a delegation of approximately 30 Canadian businesses.

"I am very impressed with the enormous progress that Poland has made in its transition to a market economy," said Mr. Eggleton, who addressed the Canada-Poland Business Club. "Face-to-face meetings like these allow Canadian companies to get the information they need to find Polish business partners and to identify projects in which they can invest."

Mr. Eggleton also took the opportunity to focus on recent successes in Canada-Poland trade relations that demonstrate the growing commercial activity between the two nations, including:

- The announcement that the POLCAN Bank in Warsaw has received its foreign exchange licence. POLCAN, the first bank in Poland with significant Canadian equity, can now offer full import-export services to the Canada-Poland business community.
- The creation of the Canada-Poland Business Club, which was recently registered in Poland as an association and can now operate and seek new members.
- The announcement of an \$11 million contract for Zenon Environmental Systems Corp., a Burlington, Ontario firm, to install and manage equipment that will purify water at a Polish power station. They also plan to open an office in Poland later this year.
- The announcement of a significant contract for Canada-based Nortel with Telekomunikacja Polska S.A., the national network operator, to provide switching equipment for Poland's information superhighway project.



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- The signing of a memorandum of understanding between the governments of Canada and Poland whereby Canada's Export Development Corporation (EDC), Poland's export credit agency, KUKE, and various Polish banks could fund geophysical surveys in Morocco.

Poland is Canada's largest market in Central Europe. In 1995, two-way trade reached \$300 million. Poland's growing income levels and rapidly expanding private sector offer numerous trade and investment opportunities in areas of Canadian expertise.

Tomorrow the Minister begins a three-day trade mission to Russia.

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A background document is attached.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

Backgrounder

CANADA – POLAND TRADE RELATIONS

Poland is Canada's largest market in Central Europe, and its second-largest market in East-Central Europe after Russia. Canada-Poland trade totalled \$300 million in 1995, including re-exports. Canadian exports to Poland totalled \$179 million, while Polish imports reached \$120.5 million. For the first six months of 1996, Canadian exports to Poland were up 30 per cent over the same period in the previous year.

Canada's main exports to Poland in 1995 were vehicle parts, machinery and parts, durum wheat, electrical equipment, zinc ores and meat. Imports from Poland consisted mainly of turbo jets and pumps, urea, iron, steel, copper and zinc. Canada's increased exports reflect greater success in the high-technology, automotive and environmental sectors, while strength in the food, zinc, electrical and automotive sectors continues.

Poland's evolving, dynamic economy has created opportunities for the Canadian private sector. Priority sectors of interest to Canadian firms are: telecommunications and information technologies, agri-food, construction (residential and commercial), the environment and geomatics. In September, 1996, 42 Canadian companies participated in POLAGRA, Poland's largest trade fair (agri-food) and the third-largest in Europe. Canada will also participate in Poland's environmental trade fair – Poleko – in November 1996. A strong contingent of Canadian companies attended the 1995 Poleko show in Poznan. It included a meeting of the Canada-Poland Steering Committee on the Environment, which sponsored a hazardous waste seminar.

Canada will also financially support the participation of Canadian companies at two other major fairs in Poland in early 1997 – ComputerExpo and BUDMA (construction).

There are many opportunities for Canadian exporters to transfer technology to Poland; projects with the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development provide substantial opportunities in the forestry, construction (2 600 kilometres of roads) and energy sectors. The privatization process also creates opportunities for Canadian firms; Canadian investment is estimated at \$150 million and growing.

Air Canada and Poland's LOT Airlines began negotiations for a commercial air agreement in 1995. The Polish Deputy Minister of Agriculture visited Canada for the Food and Agricultural Organization's 50th anniversary in October 1995.

A Polish delegation also visited Globe 96, a major environmental conference, in March in Vancouver, led by the Deputy Minister of the Environment. The Polish Minister for Economic Relations, Jacek Buchacz, participated in a CIBC-Wood Gundy investment seminar in Toronto and also visited Ottawa and Montreal in November 1995. He subsequently met Canada's Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton in Baltimore for the Fourth West-East Conference in March 1996.

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News Release

October 16, 1996

No. 190

EGGLETON ANNOUNCES EXPORT FINANCING FOR RUSSIAN COMPANIES

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today in Moscow that leading private Russian companies will be eligible for new financing from the Export Development Corporation (EDC) to support Canadian exports to Russia.

EDC will target companies that earn hard currency, primarily in the oil and gas and telecommunications sectors, as well as leading Russian banks whose clients are likely to purchase Canadian goods and services.

"I am confident that EDC's decision to lend money to high-quality Russian companies will result in increased activity by Canadian firms in the Russian market, and will build on our already extensive commercial contacts," said the Minister. Mr. Eggleton is accompanied by a delegation of 57 Canadian companies.

The Minister spoke today at the opening of the second-annual meeting of the Canada-Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC), which he co-chairs with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Zaveryukha. The Commission promotes economic co-operation and trade between Canadian and Russian companies.

"Since the IEC's first meeting in Canada one year ago, commercial links between our nations have strengthened considerably," said the Minister. "Our exports to Russia are on the rise, and Canadian companies are making important inroads in a quickly evolving market."

Total Canadian exports to Russia for 1995 valued \$190 million. For the first six months of 1996, Canadian exports have grown to \$149 million.

Mr. Eggleton is to meet Thursday with Vladimir Potanin, First Deputy Prime Minister for Finance and the Economy, and on Friday with Vladimir Yakovlev, Governor of the Leningrad Oblast (province).



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The Minister will also attend the opening of the Moscow showroom of Construct Quebec, a consortium of 19 small and medium-sized building materials manufacturers. The group had sales of \$2.5 million in Russia in the past year. This is the first showroom in Russia devoted to Canadian-made products.

Mr. Eggleton will participate in a ceremony launching Molson's beer in the Russian market. The Minister said that the distribution relationship between Molson Breweries and AWT International is "an exciting Canada-Russia trade initiative that will benefit both our countries."

In St. Petersburg on Friday, Mr. Eggleton will announce a technical co-operation agreement to install window films to protect the Hermitage Museum's collection from harmful ultra-violet rays. The project involves joint government-business financing, and will demonstrate Canadian expertise in this field.

Mr. Eggleton will also discuss with Russian ministers, officials and business people ways to develop Canada-Russia trade across the Pacific. The Minister expressed interest in the Russian Far-East region as a natural extension of the Asian market for Canadian companies.

The Minister also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on veterinary science with Deputy Prime Minister Zaverukha. The MOU will help Canadian and Russian veterinary agencies to prevent the spread of animal diseases.

Canadian direct investment in Russia currently stands at just over \$400 million, principally in the oil and gas sector. Since 1992, more than 50 joint ventures have been launched under the auspices of the Canadian government's Renaissance Eastern Europe Program.

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A background document is attached

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

Backgrounder

CANADA-RUSSIA INTERGOVERNMENTAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION

- The second annual meeting of the Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC) will take place in Moscow on October 16, 1996. The inaugural meeting of the IEC was launched in Ottawa in 1995 by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Prime Minister Victor S. Chernomyrdin.
- The IEC is chaired by Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Zaveryukha. Its purpose is to promote economic co-operation and trade, and to resolve trade irritants.
- The Commission's focus is the private sector. Nearly 50 Canadian companies will participate in the Moscow meeting, whose main goal is to continue the progress made in facilitating business between Russian and Canadian companies.
- Canada's objectives for the IEC are:
 - to identify and bring forward the concerns of the Canadian business community to the Russian government;
 - to agree on means to address those concerns, and to identify areas where industry or government can co-operate to enhance the Canadian presence in Russia; and
 - to raise Russia's profile as a place to do business.
- For Canadian companies with significant investments in Russia, particularly in the oil and gas sector, the IEC is a valuable forum for discussing issues, resolving problems and making recommendations to key Russian players. The Commission promotes Canada as a high tech trading partner with global expertise and complements its broader trade interests throughout Europe.
- Since the 1995 meeting, Russia's economy has improved, and a growing number of success stories are bringing more Canadian companies into the Russian market. The first meeting of the IEC benefited from strong private sector interest and participation.
- Changes in the Russian marketplace have occurred at an unprecedented pace in the last six years, creating tremendous commercial opportunities. Canada's interests in Russia have evolved accordingly, and our commercial activities now span many sectors.

- In the short to medium term, Canadian companies stand to do well in Russia in the agri-food, energy, transportation and telecommunications sectors, all of which are being discussed by the IEC.
- Canada-Russia trade continues to increase; non-grain exports of goods and services to Russia improved in 1995. Total Canadian exports to Russia for 1995 valued \$190 million. For the first six months of 1996, Canadian exports totalled just over \$149 million, and are expected to exceed 1995's total. These figures do not include the export of services, which are estimated to exceed \$250 million a year.
- Canadian direct investment in Russia currently stands at \$300 million, principally in the oil and gas sector.

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News Release

October 18, 1996

No. 191

STEWART TO ATTEND CONSULTATIONS ON WEST AFRICA

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will attend high-level United Nations consultations on post-conflict peacebuilding and related security questions in West Africa. The one-day meeting will be held at the United Nations in New York on Monday, October 21, 1996, during the 51st session of the General Assembly.

"Canada believes that lasting peace must be the basis for sustainable development in the West African subregion," said Mrs. Stewart. "We are pleased to join representatives from both developing countries and the donor community in the search for effective ways to consolidate the foundation of peace and pave the way for sustainable development."

United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has convened the conference to address the serious problems resulting from unabated regional conflicts including those in Liberia and Mali. The meeting will explore the best strategies for formulating and funding post-conflict programs.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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News Release

October 18, 1996

No. 192

AXWORTHY TO LEAD BUSINESS DELEGATION TO UKRAINE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will head a delegation of approximately 40 Canadian industry and business leaders to Ukraine on October 23 and 24, 1996. The visit will focus on developing business opportunities for Canadian firms, particularly in oil and gas, agri-food, and construction and building materials, and will culminate in the signing of contracts.

Mr. Axworthy will address the inaugural Canada-Ukraine Intergovernmental Economic Commission and visit Osvita, a general pediatric centre originally opened as a Canadian-sponsored Chernobyl children's project, on October 24.

"Ukraine is poised to enter a period of economic growth, creating considerable business opportunities for Canadian companies that are positioning themselves in that market," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canadian companies are well equipped to assist Ukraine's efforts to achieve political stability and economic progress in a variety of areas including nuclear safety.

This mission is being undertaken in co-operation with the Canada Ukraine Chamber of Commerce. The Canada-Ukraine Advisory Council, a forum for partnership between the Ukrainian-Canadian community and the Government of Canada to advise on Canada's relations with Ukraine, will also be represented on the delegation. The Chairman of the Canada Ukraine Business Initiative – an initiative driven by the private sector and supported by the federal government – will also participate.

In Kyiv, Mr. Axworthy will meet President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, Speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament Oleksandr Moroz and Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko.

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A list of participants is attached.



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This document is also available on the Department's Internet
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**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO UKRAINE
OCTOBER 23-24, 1996**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ALAMO INTERNATIONAL
Smoky Lake, Alberta

ALBARRIE CANADA LIMITED
Barrie, Ontario

ALPA LUMBER INC.
Mississauga, Ontario

A.R.S. TRUCKING & WELDING LTD.
Edmonton, Alberta

ASTRO TRAVEL SERVICE
Toronto, Ontario

ATCO STRUCTURES INC.
Calgary, Alberta

**AURORA PACIFIC CONSULTING &
DEVELOPMENT CORP.**
Vancouver, British Columbia

BALKAN TRADING LTD.
Richmond, British Columbia

CANADA - UKRAINE MONITOR
Ottawa, Ontario

CANADIAN GRAIN COMMISSION
Winnipeg, Manitoba

CANATOM INC.
Toronto, Ontario

COMMERCIAL ALCOHOLS
Brampton, Ontario

COREL CORPORATION
Ottawa, Ontario

EFREM ENTERPRISES LTD.
Yorkton, Saskatchewan

GE GROUND ENGINEERING LTD.
Regina, Saskatchewan

**GRANT MACEWAN COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**
Edmonton, Alberta

**GYRATRON DEVELOPMENTS LTD.
TARFU HOLDINGS (B.C.) LTD.**
Vancouver, British Columbia

**INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK
MANAGEMENT SCHOOLS**
Kemptville, Ontario

KOZLOVA ENTERPRISES INC.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

**JOHN R. LACEY INTERNATIONAL
LTD.**
Calgary, Alberta

LATECO INC.
Toronto, Ontario

**MOKA INTERNATIONAL (CANADA)
INC.**
Toronto, Ontario

**NAVIGATOR TRADE HOUSE
INTERNATIONAL INC.**
Winnipeg, Manitoba

PARAGON CONSULTANTS
Winnipeg, Manitoba

**PROFESSIONAL FREIGHT SYSTEMS
INC.**
Edmonton, Alberta

QIT
Montreal, Quebec

SHELTON CORPORATION LIMITED
Etobicoke, Ontario

SMITH LYONS
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS
(UKRAINE ENTERPRISE
CORPORATION)
Toronto, Ontario

SNC-LAVALIN INTERNATIONAL
Montreal, Quebec

EDWARD A. SPEERS CONSULTING
LTD.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

SUSSEX ADMIRAL GROUP LTD.
(EXPORT INVESTORS GROUP)
Burlington, Ontario

TERON INC.
Ottawa, Ontario

THIXOTECH INC.
(AMPTECH CORP.)
Calgary, Alberta

TRADE FACILITATION OFFICE
Ottawa, Ontario

UK-RAN OIL CORPORATION
Calgary, Alberta

VIA PAX ET LTD.
Brampton, Ontario

WESTERN AG
Toronto, Ontario

THE WINCHESTER GROUP
Markham, Ontario

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News Release

October 21, 1996

No. 193

EGGLETON MEETS WITH SWEDEN'S TRADE MINISTER

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today met in Ottawa with His Excellency Björn von Sydow, Minister for Trade of the Kingdom of Sweden, to discuss bilateral and global trade issues.

Items being discussed during the meeting and working lunch, hosted by Mr. Eggleton, included: ways of ensuring the best possible outcomes from the upcoming World Trade Organization meeting of trade ministers, taking place in Singapore in December; mutual efforts to foster the Canada-European Union dialogue; and immediate steps to eliminate obstacles to regional and transatlantic trade.

"The similarity in the trade and fiscal challenges and in the opportunities facing Canada and Sweden, along with the creative approaches that both countries are applying, led to very useful discussions," said Mr. Eggleton. "Swedish investors have shown great confidence in Canada as a gateway to the continent and beyond in recent years, and this visit will help encourage that process to continue."

The volume of trade between Canada and Sweden is increasing rapidly. Swedish sales to Canada in 1995 totalled \$1.1 billion while Canada's sales to Sweden came to \$343 million in the same year. The recent large flow of Swedish investments into Nova Scotia, Quebec and elsewhere in Canada has helped offset this trade imbalance.

Mr. von Sydow is on a three-day visit to Canada to follow up on earlier Swedish and Canadian initiatives to build on the two countries' growing commercial relationship. He will attend the third annual Canada-Sweden Conference under the theme "Canada and Sweden - Partners into the Future."

- 30 -

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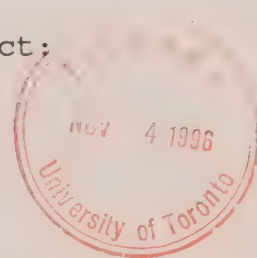
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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:
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News Release

October 22, 1996

No. 194

NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS TO ADDRESS PEACEBUILDING AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced plans for the 1996 National Forum on Canada's International Relations. Organizers in five communities across the country will host one-day discussions on peacebuilding and international communications between late October and mid November.

"Peacebuilding and international communications are two emerging policy areas that will be key to the promotion of Canadian values worldwide," said Mr. Axworthy. "These consultations are in keeping with our commitment to include Canadians in the development of foreign policy."

The first sessions will take place in Halifax on October 24 and Victoria on October 26 and will focus on peacebuilding. Other discussions will take place in Quebec City, Toronto and Edmonton. Mr. Axworthy will host a wrap-up session of the National Forum in Winnipeg on December 13.

Up to 500 Canadians – including youth, academics, community leaders and representatives of non-governmental organizations, business and labour – are expected to participate.

This year's National Forum is being co-ordinated by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development in consultation with local community-based groups.

The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development has been established within the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to help Canadians participate in foreign policy making. In addition to co-ordinating the National Forum, the Centre manages public consultation, research and other John Holmes Fund projects. The Fund was established earlier this year by Mr. Axworthy.

- 30 -

A list of discussion sessions is attached.



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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>; and on the Internet site for the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development: www.cfp-pec.gc.ca

NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Community-based Sessions

Date: October 24
Venue: Dalhousie University, Halifax
Theme: Peacebuilding
Contact: Tim Shaw
Tel.: (902) 494-3769

Date: October 26
Venue: University of Victoria, Victoria
Theme: Peacebuilding
Contact: Dawn McLean
Tel.: (604) 360-1405

Date: November 2
Venue: University of Alberta, Edmonton
Theme: International communications
Contact: Mary McDonald
Tel.: (403) 427-7421

Date: November 15
Venue: York University, Toronto
Theme: International communications
Contact: Ruth Abrahamson
Tel.: (416) 494-1440

Date: November 16
Venue: Laval University, Quebec City
Theme: Peacebuilding
Contact: Alain Prujiner
Tel.: (418) 656-7771

Concluding Session

Date: December 13
Venue: Fort Gary Hotel, Winnipeg
Themes: Wrap-up discussion with Minister Axworthy
Contact: Jim Fergusson
Tel.: (204) 474-6606

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News Release

October 23, 1996

No. 195

CANADA CONDEMNS CONFRONTATIONS IN SOUTH KIVU

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart today condemned the violent confrontations in South Kivu – sparked by the forced expulsion of the Banyamulenge from Eastern Zaire – and welcomed the initiative of the UN Secretary-General to dispatch a special envoy to the region to defuse the tension.

"Canada is especially concerned about this situation and the ongoing instability in the Great Lakes region," said Mr. Axworthy. "We are greatly concerned about the fate of all Zairians, regardless of ethnic origin, and of the refugees who can no longer count on assistance and support from humanitarian agencies, whose personnel have been evacuated from the region because of these events."

The Banyamulenge were ordered by Zairian authorities earlier this month to leave the country and have since been the target of armed attacks. They have begun to retaliate against both the local people and the armed forces of Zaire, and against the camps housing Rwandan and Burundian refugees.

"Canada is deeply troubled by the violence and ethnic discrimination rampant in this part of Zaire," said Mrs. Stewart. "We encourage the parties involved to exercise restraint for the sake of an immediate return to calm and dialogue. The solution to this situation lies in settling the ongoing crisis in the Great Lakes region, specifically the Burundian political impasse, and in repatriating the Rwandan refugees as soon as possible."

- 30 -

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News Release

October 24, 1996

No. 196

AXWORTHY TRADE MISSION EXPANDS BUSINESS LINKS WITH UKRAINE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, in Kyiv with a delegation of more than 70 senior business representatives, today witnessed the signing of agreements between Canadian businesses and Ukrainian partners worth some \$600 million. Mr. Axworthy also co-chaired the inaugural session of the Intergovernmental Economic Commission, organized to support and facilitate business and trade co-operation between Canada and Ukraine.

"Important Canada-Ukraine initiatives in the oil and gas and construction and building materials sectors underline the success of this mission," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canadians and Ukrainians will benefit for years to come as a result of the investments announced today in Kyiv."

Among the business agreements signed in Kyiv were the following:

- Northland Power has signed an agreement valued at \$150 million to renovate the Darnytsia Power Plant in Kyiv, which will supply electricity and district heating to 900 000 people in the Kyiv area. This project will produce a significant savings for Ukrainian imports of natural gas and increase the availability of electricity in the Kyiv area.
- SNC Lavalin has signed a protocol of intent with its Ukrainian partners to build a World Trade Centre in Kyiv, valued at \$400 million.
- The Ukraine Enterprise Fund has signed an agreement with Electron Bank valued at \$5 million.
- Western Combines has formed a joint venture worth \$12 million to produce grain harvesting machinery in Ukraine.
- Lateral Vector Resources has signed a licensing agreement,



valued at \$30 million, for an oil rehabilitation project with Ukrnafta (Ukrainian Oil) for development of the Bugrevatovskoye Field in Northeastern Ukraine.

During his visit in Ukraine, Mr. Axworthy also encouraged Ukrainian government and business representatives to support the Canada-Ukraine Business Initiative (CUBI) by attending its 1997 conference in Calgary and the promotional events taking place in Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg. The CUBI is a private-sector initiative, which receives support from the federal government, the three prairie provinces and private business.

Ukraine is a significant market for Canada in Eastern Europe. Ukraine's considerable economic potential, coupled with needs that Canada can meet in the oil and gas, agri-food and construction and building materials sectors, offers numerous trade and investment opportunities in areas of Canadian expertise.

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News Release

October 25, 1996

No. 197



EGGLETON PRESENTS 1996 INTERNATIONAL TRADE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today presented the 1996 Minister's International Trade Award for Excellence to Louis Poisson, Deputy Director, Trade, South America and Inter-American Division, for his outstanding efforts to promote and increase trade opportunities in the Americas, while acting as both Director and Deputy Director of the Latin American and the Caribbean Trade Program last year.

"Mr. Poisson did not simply maintain the status quo. He continued to aggressively increase trade opportunities in his region of responsibility," said Mr. Eggleton when presenting the Award. "As a result, he has delivered a successful program of trade fairs, major incoming and outgoing missions, in addition to in-country activities, including work on Canada's International Business Strategy and follow-up of the Prime Minister's Team Canada Mission to Latin America in 1995."

Mr. Eggleton also presented four citations for exemplary service in the field of international trade.

William Horovitz, Trade Commissioner, International Trade Centre in Montréal, was recognized for consistently providing exceptional service over three decades by contributing to the export success and joint-venture agreements of numerous companies, and penetrating Asia-Pacific markets.

Director Rick McElrea, Deputy Director Marcel Laneville, and Senior Sourcing Officer Sheila Johnson, as leaders of the International Business Opportunities Centre team, were cited for developing and implementing a system to deliver qualified trade leads to Canadian companies, which has put 9000 companies in direct contact with Canada's trade officers abroad and led to millions of dollars in sales, thereby creating or sustaining jobs across the country.

Brigitte Léger, Deputy Director, Maghreb and Arabian Peninsula Division, received a citation for creating, while on assignment



in Princeton, New Jersey, an extensive database to advise Canadian high-tech private-sector exporters; for initiating \$250 million in investment for Canada; and for assisting in the creation of approximately 400 jobs in the high-tech sector in Canada.

David Wong, assigned to the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei through an interchange with the Alberta government, was acknowledged for his impressive agri-food promotion initiatives, from organizing related activities and expansion in several new sectors, to building linkages with other education and cultural activities, which have led to significant increases in exports of agri-food products.

The Award for Excellence is presented annually as part of the Department's Recognition and Awards Program.

- 30 -

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News Release

October 25, 1996

No. 198

CANADA DEPLORES LATEST ARREST IN BURMA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today called on Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) to release immediately U Kyi Maung, vice-chair of the National League for Democracy, who was detained October 23 following a peaceful student demonstration.

"We are very concerned about the continuing crackdown on the pro-democracy movement. Dialogue is critical for national reconciliation and democratic reform in Burma," said Mr. Axworthy.

"We call on the Burmese regime to end its repressive and restrictive policies, and urge it to begin a dialogue with the opposition now," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan.

Canada has repeatedly condemned Burma's unacceptable record of gross and systematic human rights violations and the military regime's refusal to abide by the results of democratic election. Canadian bilateral aid to Burma was suspended in 1988, following the army's massacre of thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators in Rangoon.

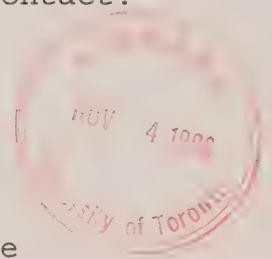
- 30 -

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News Release

October 25, 1996

No. 199

VICE-PRESIDENT OF CUBAN COUNCIL OF STATE TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Carlos Lage, Vice-President of the Cuban Council of State, will pay a working visit to Canada from October 27 to 31.

"I look forward to Mr. Lage's visit so that we can continue our discussions with Cuba regarding bilateral and multilateral issues," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada's long-standing relations with Cuba include in-depth discussions on human rights, good governance, trade, and economic and legal reform. We will pursue this agenda during the visit."

Canada has pursued a policy of constructive engagement with Cuba for almost 40 years through successive governments, and has maintained uninterrupted diplomatic relations with Cuba for over five decades.

- 30 -

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News Release

October 29, 1996

ERRATUM

In News Release No. 196 of October 24, 1996, entitled **AXWORTHY TRADE MISSION EXPANDS BUSINESS LINKS WITH UKRAINE**, the announcement concerning Lateral Vector Resources should not have been included. Negotiations are still under way.

Also, omitted from the original release was the following agreement:

- Kashtan Oil has arranged a joint venture with Ukranafta (Ukrainian Oil) to develop Leliaky Field. Production is scheduled to begin on November 1, 1996.

- 30 -

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News Release

October 30, 1996

No. 200

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR CHOSEN AS UN SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the appointment of Raymond Chrétien, Canada's Ambassador to the United States, as United Nations (UN) Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region. UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali appointed Ambassador Chrétien to undertake an assessment of the crisis in the Great Lakes region of Africa and to make recommendations as to how the United Nations should respond.

"Canada is pleased to be entrusted with this vitally important role," stated Mr. Axworthy. "As former Ambassador to Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire, Mr. Chrétien possesses extensive knowledge of the region, which will help him assess the situation and make sound recommendations to the Secretary-General."

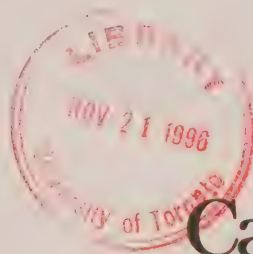
As the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General, Ambassador Chrétien will travel to the region to assess the crisis and prospects for a resolution. His mission will be completed when he submits a confidential report to the UN Secretary-General, no later than December 15. The report will contain the Ambassador's evaluation of the situation and his recommendations as to how best to proceed. Canada will also provide transportation and local logistical support as needed.

"The choice of a Canadian to carry out this mission reflects the credibility that Canada enjoys throughout Africa and in the Great Lakes region in particular, as a result of its bilingual capabilities and absence of colonial ties, as well as its long-standing and impartial involvement in programs of economic and educational co-operation," added Mr. Axworthy.

- 30 -

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News Release

October 30, 1996

No. 201

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CANADA TO ESTABLISH NEW PEACEBUILDING FUND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Don Boudria, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, announced today that Canada will establish a special fund, financed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), to help build peace in countries and regions racked by violence and war. The fund is an integral component of a new Canadian Peacebuilding Initiative.

"This is a new tool of diplomacy," said Mr. Axworthy. "It will support flexible and timely Canadian responses in critical situations where events are moving quickly." Mr. Axworthy outlined the purpose of the new program in a speech today at York University's Centre for International Security Studies.

"Cease-fires, peacekeeping forces and aid to refugees and displaced persons are vital in building peace," said Mr. Boudria. "But to make peace last, we need to rebuild the institutions of war-torn societies. This initiative will help us do that."

In his speech, Mr. Axworthy described the Peacebuilding Initiative as a response to one of the most significant challenges of the post-Cold War world: building sustainable peace in countries, such as those in the Great Lakes region of Africa, that are prone to recurring cycles of violence and where tragic internal conflict has profound regional implications.

Minister Axworthy stated that the Initiative will be launched with a formal consultation on peacebuilding to take place in conjunction with annual departmental human rights consultations with non-governmental organizations early in 1997. He also announced that CIDA will contribute \$10 million to the special Peacebuilding Fund, which will assist in filling urgent gaps in Canadian programming and act as a catalyst to promote new approaches and to mobilize Canadian talent and expertise. The Minister noted that he announced the third element of the Initiative, a roster of Canadian human rights experts, at the United Nations last month.



Minister Axworthy prefaced the announcement of the Initiative with an overview of the challenges posed by a new kind of war that includes ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia and hate propaganda in Rwanda. He noted that these situations have led to a re-examination of the notion of security by Canada and other countries, including Norway and Holland. Two key concepts have emerged from this review: human security and, as a means to achieve it, peacebuilding.

"The concept of human security recognizes that human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, good governance, sustainable development and social equity are as important to global peace as are arms control and disarmament," said Mr. Axworthy.

While noting that peacebuilding is an evolving concept, he described it as a set of measures that creates a sustainable infrastructure for human security. These measures provide the minimal conditions under which a country can implement social, political and economic development.

The Minister cited Haiti as an example of peacebuilding complementing peacekeeping, through programs that include training civilian police, institution building and promoting national reconciliation and economic rehabilitation.

Minister Axworthy noted the two distinct assets Canada can put to use in peacebuilding: Canadian expertise in nurturing our own democracy, and advanced information technology that can be used as a conduit for collecting, sharing and analysing information as well as a means of maintaining local capacity after the departure of Canadian experts.

Mr. Axworthy challenged Canadians to contribute to the success of the Initiative. "Canada has traditionally been a leader in peacekeeping operations. My aim is to move us toward being a leader in peacebuilding," he said.

CIDA will contribute \$10 million to the Peacebuilding Initiative beginning in the fiscal year 1997-98. Funding for this initiative was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

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News Release

November 4, 1996

No. 202

AXWORTHY WELCOMES PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the achievement of a major step in implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The CWC enters into force 180 days after the 65th ratification by a Signatory State. As Hungary became the 65th country to ratify on October 31, 1996, the CWC will enter into force on April 29, 1997.

"Canadians have long been active in negotiations aimed at controlling and reducing weapons of mass destruction. The CWC is unique for being the first global verifiable agreement to ban an entire class of weaponry. Canada signalled the importance of the CWC by becoming one of the first countries to ratify the Convention in September 1995," said Mr. Axworthy. "Ratification by the 65th country marks an important step in the pursuit of international peace and security."

Canada encourages other countries, particularly the United States and Russia, to ratify the CWC before its entry into force on April 29, 1997, and to work for the Convention's effective implementation.

The CWC, which opened for signature at the 1993 Conference on Disarmament, in Geneva, bans the development, production, stockpiling, transfer and use of chemicals and regulates the means of their destruction. Bill C-87, the Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation Act, the legislation which implemented the terms of the Convention, was approved by Parliament in June 1995.

- 30 -

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News Release

November 7, 1996

No. 203

AXWORTHY TO VISIT CAIRO AND PARIS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will lead a delegation of over 30 Canadian firms and organizations to the third Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit (MENAES) in Cairo, Egypt, November 12-14, 1996. He will also attend a meeting of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board in Paris, France, on November 14, to promote a lasting peace in Bosnia.

The MENAES brings together international business executives and Middle Eastern and North African business leaders to assess the changing business environment and potential opportunities in the region. Canadian companies and organizations participating in the conference will highlight Canadian capabilities in such sectors as agriculture, environmental products and services, consulting services, transportation, energy and telecommunications. While in Cairo, Mr. Axworthy will also be undertaking bilateral discussions with a number of representatives from countries in the region.

"Building a strong economy in the Middle East and North Africa will help pave the way toward peace, security and prosperity for all in this region," said Mr Axworthy. "I will be emphasizing this point and also signalling Canada's concern about the importance of re-invigorating the peace process in my meetings in Cairo. Canada stands ready to assist in any way to help strengthen peace and stability in the region."

Canada will provide an on-site pavilion in Cairo called Canada House, where international business people can meet Canadian delegates and obtain trade information regarding Canadian business activities in the Middle East and North Africa.

In Paris, the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council, which provides guidance to the High Representative, Carl Bildt, will discuss a framework for the next phase of the Bosnia peace process.

The Steering Board is composed of representatives of the G-7 countries, Russia, the Presidency of the European Union, the European Commission and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.



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"Canada's participation in the Council Steering Board is especially important at this critical juncture, following the national elections and nearing the end of the IFOR mission in Bosnia," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is through such forums that Canada can contribute to the monitoring, co-ordination and facilitation of all civilian aspects of the peace agreement."

The full Peace Implementation Council will hold its next ministerial conference in London, England, December 4-5, 1996.

-30-

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Media accreditation for the MENAES must be obtained through the Media Office, World Economic Forum, Cairo,
tel.: 011-20-2-489-0103; fax: 011-20-2-489-0119.

For more information on the Cairo Summit via the Internet, please contact www.cairo96.gov.eg

Media accreditation for the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board must be obtained through the Canadian Embassy in Paris,
tel.: 011-33-1-44-43-29-00; fax: 011-33-1-44-43-29-98.

This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

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News Release

November 7, 1996

No. 204

CANADA CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN EASTERN ZAIRE TO PERMIT CREATION OF HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Don Boudria today asked for an immediate cease-fire in eastern Zaire in order to permit the creation of humanitarian corridors.

In line with its desire to contribute to the easing of tension in the Great Lakes region of Africa and in support of the mission of the UN Special Envoy, Ambassador Raymond Chrétien, Canada is providing, among other things, an airplane and crew from the Department of National Defence, along with the services of three civil servants directly involved in the mission.

The Canadian government is of the opinion that an immediate cease-fire on the part of all belligerents in eastern Zaire is a necessary and essential condition for the creation of humanitarian corridors for the transportation and delivery of emergency humanitarian assistance, and for the voluntary return home of Rwandan refugees living in this region.

"In support of Special Envoy Ambassador Chrétien's mission, Canada urges the UN Security Council to consider the request made at the Nairobi Summit to deploy a neutral force to ensure the establishment of safe humanitarian corridors," said Mr. Axworthy. "For its part, Canada is prepared to consider how these corridors could be protected. Their creation may be greatly facilitated by a cease-fire adhered to by all parties involved in the conflict."

"Canada remains extremely preoccupied by the worsening of the political situation, and we have asked the Rwandan government to do whatever is necessary to encourage Rwandan refugees, confined in Zaire as well as in Tanzania, to return to their homeland," added Mr. Axworthy, emphasizing that the voluntary and rapid repatriation of Rwandan refugees remains Canada's preoccupation.



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"Canada is especially concerned about the well-being of the women and children who are innocent victims of the conflict. When conditions permit, the Canadian International Development Agency is prepared to support humanitarian aid efforts to help save lives, prevent the spread of disease, and ensure the safe return of refugees to their homes," said Mr. Boudria.

Finally, the Canadian government continues to support firmly the leadership of the Heads of State of the Great Lakes region of Africa, as demonstrated again when they met in Nairobi on November 5.

-30-

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News Release

November 12, 1996

No. 205

CANADA COMPARES WELL WITH U.S. IN BUSINESS COSTS, SAYS STUDY

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today released in New York City the findings of an independent study of 23 Canadian and American cities which shows that business operating costs, particularly total labour costs, are significantly lower in Canada than in the United States.

"This study by the Canadian consulting firm, KPMG, shows that cities right across Canada are excellent sites for investment by U.S. firms," said Mr. Eggleton. "Canada is a very competitive place in which to locate."

Based on a detailed analysis of key cost factors, KPMG found that after-tax costs average 6.7 per cent less in Canadian than in U.S. cities.

The study, entitled *The Competitive Alternative: A Comparison of Business Costs in Canada and the United States*, was sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Economic Developers Association of Canada. It compared the costs of establishing and operating industrial facilities across seven industries in suburban sites in 13 Canadian and 10 U.S. jurisdictions. All of the most location-specific costs were taken into account, including land and building costs.

KPMG developed a computer-based model to compare start-up and operating costs for 10 years of operation, assuming comparable sales and distribution patterns for each location. Each company was assumed to have sales of more than \$10 million and a minimum of 100 employees.

Stuart MacKay, partner in KPMG's Vancouver office and director of the study, said that the strong Canadian results are primarily due to total labour costs, including wages, employer-sponsored benefits, and employer-sponsored statutory benefits.

"The image of Canada as having higher labour costs is simply not accurate," Mr. MacKay said. "When all the costs of U.S. labour



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costs are factored in and converted to Canadian dollars, the net advantage to Canada is significant."

"This study is part of our effort to provide key information to U.S. investors considering locating in Canada," said Mr. Eggleton. "We know that investment contributes to economic growth and more jobs for Canadians."

Among key findings:

- For every industry examined, overall costs are lower in Canada than in the U.S.
- Costs related to location are, on average, 15.7 per cent lower in Canada. These costs amount to about 40 per cent of total operating costs and lead to an after-tax cost advantage of 6.7 per cent;
- The size of the Canadian advantage varies by industry, ranging from 5.5 per cent for telecommunications to 10.5 per cent for software production;
- Industrial land, construction and electricity costs are lower in Canada;
- Income-tax credits for research and development currently favour Canadian locations;
- Even the largest Canadian centres are less costly than all of the U.S. locations examined; and
- Canada's overall cost advantage remains as long as the Canadian dollar exchange rate is under US\$0.87.

The Canadian cities studied were Vancouver; Calgary; Saskatoon; Winnipeg; Toronto; Ottawa; London, Ont.; Montreal; Quebec City; Moncton, N.B.; Charlottetown, P.E.I.; Halifax; and St. John's, Nfld. The U.S. cities were Austin, Texas; Bellingham, Wash.; Colorado Springs, Colo.; Columbus, Ohio; Hampton, Va.; Manchester, N.H.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Raleigh, N.C.; Sacramento, Cal.; and Scranton, Pa.

The KPMG study is published by Prospectus Inc. of Ottawa.

While in New York, Mr. Eggleton will address the Americas Society on the North American Free Trade Agreement and the future of free trade.

A backgrounder is attached.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet
site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

A limited number of copies are available for the media from the
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.
Additional copies can be purchased from:

Prospectus Inc., 180 Elgin Street, Suite 900, Ottawa, ON K2P 2K3
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The Competitive Alternative: A Comparison of Business Costs in Canada and the United States

ABSTRACT

By KPMG Canada
Published by Prospectus Inc.

Sponsored by:



Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
et du Commerce International

ECONOMIC
DEVELOPERS
ASSOCIATION
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DEVELOPPEMENT
ECONOMIQUE



ROYAL BANK

An Analytical Guide for Business Investment Decisions

Choosing a location for a new investment is a major undertaking. For those businesses considering the establishment of an operation in North America, one of the preliminary choices is between Canada and the United States. The 122-page, 1996 edition of *The Competitive Alternative* addresses this choice by rigorously analyzing and comparing business costs in the US and Canada. In presenting this comparison, the study goes a long way in helping businesses with their investment decisions.

KPMG Canada, the authors of this publication, recognize that the final investment decision must go beyond situation-specific cost factors to include such variables as workforce availability, quality of life, transportation infrastructure, education, and medical care — just to name a few. But it is still true that many of the determining factors in the investment decision are related to costs. Therefore, the report analyzes eight location-sensitive cost factors for seven dynamic industries in thirteen Canadian and ten US cities.

The Model

The findings of this comparative study are based on a KPMG-created model that

incorporates the main location-sensitive cost factors. The authors collected data for all industries in each of the locations. KPMG developed illustrative business scenarios based on current tax rates, cost factors and exchange rates, and then used their computer-based financial model to compare typical annual costs, from start-up to ten years of operation.

In developing the model, each facility was assumed to have sales in excess of US \$10 million and a minimum of 100 employees. The analysis focused on costs of establishing facilities on a 5-10 acre site in suburban areas zoned for light-to-medium industrial purposes. Using standard financial and operating assumptions, the model developed financial statements, such as balance sheets and income statements, over a ten-year period, treating each facility as a stand-alone operation.

Key Findings

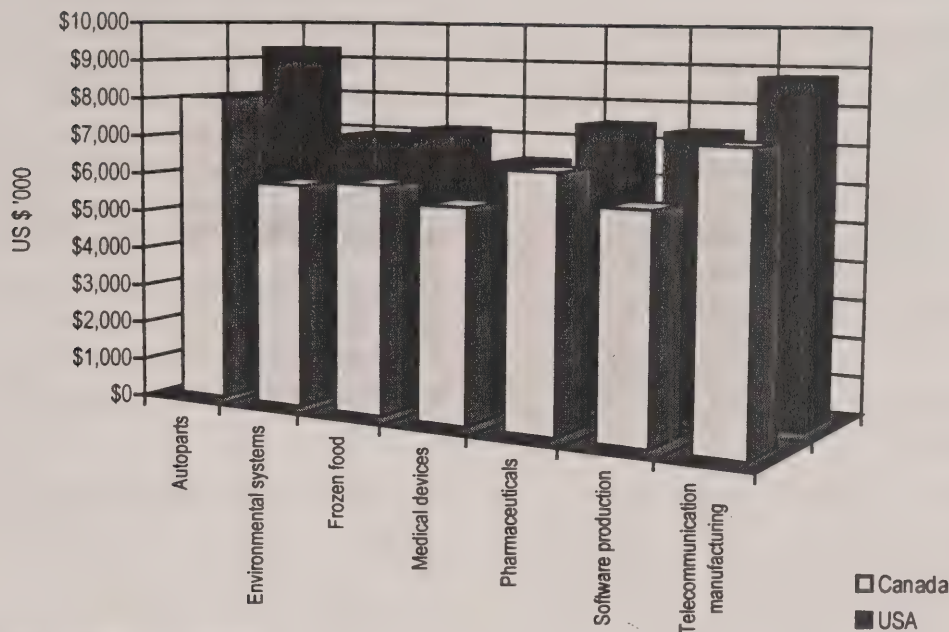
1. For every industry, overall costs are lower in Canada than the US

Using the model and reliable sources of data, the analysis concludes that in each of the seven industries examined, overall location-sensitive costs are consistently lower in Canada than in the US (see accompanying chart).

The difference is not marginal. Location-sensitive costs are on average 15.7 percent lower in Canada than in the United States. As

Industry	Jurisdictions		Location-sensitive Cost Factors
Autoparts manufacturing	Calgary, AB	Austin, TX	Industrial land costs
Environmental waste treatment systems manufacturing	Charlottetown, PE	Bellingham, WA	Construction costs
Frozen food processing	Halifax, NS	Colorado Springs, CO	Labour costs:
Medical devices manufacturing	London, ON	Columbus, OH	• Wages and salaries
Pharmaceutical manufacturing	Moncton, NB	Hampton, VA	• Employer-sponsored benefits
Software development and production	Montreal, QC	Manchester, NH	• Statutory benefits
Telecommunication equipment manufacturing	Ottawa, ON	Minneapolis, MN	Electricity costs
	Quebec City, QC	Raleigh, NC	Transportation/distribution costs
	Saskatoon, SK	Sacramento, CA	Telecommunication costs
	St. John's, NF	Scranton, PA	Interest and depreciation costs
	Toronto, ON		Federal, regional and local taxes
	Vancouver, BC		• Income and property taxes
	Winnipeg, MB		• Research tax credits

Exhibit 1
Location-sensitive Costs, by Industry



Note: Costs are in US \$ and are based on the annual average.

location-sensitive costs represent approximately 40 percent of total operating costs, this advantage results in an overall after-tax cost advantage of 6.7 percent in 1996. The Canadian advantage ranges from 5.5 percent for telecommunication equipment to 10.5 percent for software production.

2. Most individual cost components are favourable to Canada

Canadian costs are lower, on average, than those in the US for every location-sensitive item except transportation and telecommunications. The study cautions that tax costs cannot be easily compared among jurisdictions. Although the total tax cost may be higher in some Canadian jurisdictions, this is partly because profits are higher, not necessarily because rates are higher.

Significantly, the two strongest factors underlying the overall cost advantage for Canada are labour as well as employer-sponsored and employer-paid statutory benefits, which together account for about 65 percent of location-sensitive costs.

Costs are also lower in Canada for industrial land, construction and electricity. In mid-1996, interest charges in Canada were below those in the US and, because of lower initial investment in buildings, depreciation charges in Canada were less. As well, income tax credits for research and development currently favour Canadian locations.

3. Canada's cost advantage is consistent across all cities

All Canadian locations enjoy a cost advantage relative to the US average. In fact, *every Canadian city* studied has lower annual location-sensitive costs *in each industry* than *every US city* studied. The lowest-cost city in Canada is Charlottetown, with costs that are 8.4 percent below the US average. Even in Vancouver, the highest-cost city in Canada, costs are 4.0 percent lower than the US average and 2.1 percent less than in Hampton, the lowest-cost city in the United States.

4. Canada's cost advantage holds over a wide range of exchange rates

Exchange rates are key to Canada's cost advantage. Indeed, much of Canada's increase in competitiveness is attributable to the strong value of the US dollar in Canada. However, the important point is that Canada's cost advantage is so significant that it is retained as long as the purchasing power of the US dollar remains above C \$1.15. This rate is well-below the trading range — US \$1 = C \$1.35 to \$1.40 — of the past several years.

The Main Report and Supporting Documentation

The main body of the study, 28 pages, is comprised of three sections. The first provides an executive summary of the key findings. The second outlines the objectives and scope of the study, and includes a detailed description of the model used. The last section presents the results of the comparison of the cost factors. There is a section on each location-sensitive cost factor, supplemented by accompanying charts and tables. There are two comprehensive tables that provide a wealth of data: one on employer-paid statutory benefits and taxes; the other on federal, regional and local taxation rates.

For those interested in the detail, the study includes about 100 pages of supporting documentation in 10 Appendices. The first seven are structured around the industries studied. For each industry, the authors have provided the assumptions used in creating their model facility and the comparative findings for total location-sensitive costs; initial facility investment costs; labour, electricity, transportation and telecommunication costs; and annualized taxation costs. Actual costs are presented graphically for each city.

The eighth Appendix includes profiles for each of the thirteen Canadian and ten US cities selected for the comparison. The final two Appendices provide information on the model and the sources used for data collection.

Further Information

KPMG Canada conceived, researched and wrote the study, with sponsorship from Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Economic Developers Association of Canada, and the Royal Bank of Canada. The study, published by Prospectus Inc. (Ottawa), updates and expands on similar analyses conducted in 1994 and 1995.

Further information on this study and on Canada's business opportunities can be obtained by contacting the following companies and/or government bodies.

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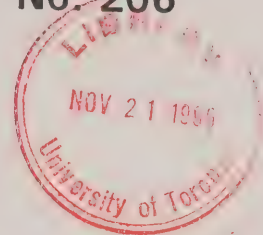
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News Release

November 13, 1996

No. 206

CANADA TO HOST MEETING ON HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO ZAIRE



The Government of Canada today announced that it will be hosting a meeting tomorrow, November 14, in New York, to form a global coalition of potential troop contributing countries. Participants will include the United States, the United Kingdom and France, as well as key aid donors.

The purpose of the meeting is to develop a plan of action to deliver humanitarian assistance to the victims of the conflict in eastern Zaire. Issues to be discussed include the mission mandate, troop contributions and operational deadlines.

Canada also welcomed the announcement earlier today of the United States' decision in principle to participate in the humanitarian mission to Zaire.

Parallel consultations on the crisis in Zaire will take place in Paris on November 14 among the foreign ministers of Canada and France and the U.S. Secretary of State.

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CANADA'S YEAR
OF ASIA PACIFIC
1997 L'ANNÉE
CANADIENNE DE
L'ASIE-PACIFIQUE



Release

No. 207

Date: November 14, 1996
For Release: Immediate

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ANNOUNCES CANADA'S YEAR OF ASIA PACIFIC AND UNVEILS WINNING LOGO

The Government of Canada announced the designation of 1997 as Canada's Year of Asia Pacific (CYAP) as Transport Minister David Anderson, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan and design student Amy Ho unveiled the official CYAP logo today at Vancouver Technical High School.

"As a people and as a trading nation, Canada's ties to the Asia Pacific community run deep," said Raymond Chan. "This special year will celebrate our Pacific dimension and help us build even stronger partnerships in Asia Pacific to create opportunities for Canadians from coast to coast."

In 1997 Canada will chair the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, which will culminate with the Economic Leaders' Meeting in Vancouver in November. Canada's Year of Asia Pacific is a year-long initiative to promote increased business relations, youth involvement and cultural exchanges to broaden understanding within the Asia Pacific region.

Amy Ho, a first-year graphic and visual arts design student at Kwantlen University College in Richmond, B.C., submitted the winning logo design concept in a nation-wide contest open to all college and university students enrolled in graphic or visual arts courses. Composed of a crane whose wings evoke the Canadian maple leaf, and with waves representing the Pacific Ocean, the logo will be featured on all official correspondence, posters and other materials, and will be used for all events and activities related to CYAP, including the 1997 APEC Leaders' Meeting.

"Our young people need to be aware of the importance of Canada's relationship with the Asia Pacific region," said David Anderson. "I would like to congratulate Amy Ho for

translating her recognition of this fact into a symbol that Canadians will come to associate with Canada's Year of Asia Pacific over the next 12 months."

During Canada's Year of Asia Pacific, the Government of Canada is encouraging business and business associations, youth and cultural organizations as well as other groups to focus on Asia Pacific in their activities. The government is currently organizing events, such as business forums and trade fairs, around APEC meetings being held across Canada in 1997 to help Canadians strengthen their partnerships and learn more about doing business in Asia Pacific.

Other key events include the January Team Canada 1997 trade mission to South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines; a youth conference and other activities involving youth; as well as cultural activities to underscore the breadth of Canada's close ties with the region and the importance of cultural understanding in doing business in Asia Pacific.

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Three backgrounders and a calendar of events are attached.

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Canada's Year of Asia Pacific Logo

Backgrounder

The Logo

The official logo for Canada's Year of Asia Pacific (CYAP) has cleverly integrated the Canadian maple leaf, the suggestion of a body of water, and the crane – a symbol of peace and longevity associated with Asia. The crane is a bird that can unite many geographic areas travelling as it does without boundaries; the waves symbolize the movement of the Pacific Ocean and the dynamism of the region; and finally, as the maple leaf completes the tail of the bird, the stroke becomes more “dry brush,” reminiscent of Asian calligraphy.

The logo will be featured on all official correspondence, posters and other materials, and will be used for all events and activities related to CYAP, including the 1997 Vancouver APEC Leaders' Meeting.

Organizations wishing to apply for use of the logo and designation of an activity as an official CYAP event can visit the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's CYAP site on the Internet at: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> or call: 1-800-267-8376 or (613) 944-4000 (National Capital Region)

The Student Winner

In September 1996, the Government of Canada sponsored a logo design competition for the official logo for Canada's Year of Asia Pacific. As part of the federal government's commitment to involve youth in CYAP, college and university students across Canada enrolled in graphics or fine arts courses were invited to submit their logo design concepts. Over 100 entries were submitted in competition for the \$1500 prize, awarded to the winning concept.

Amy Ho, a first-year student at Richmond, British Columbia's Kwantlen University College's Graphic and Visual Design program, submitted the winning design concept. Ms. Ho, 26, was born in Hong Kong and emigrated with her family to Vancouver in 1987. She studied at the Emily Carr School of Art for one year before choosing to enroll as one of only 20 students in Kwantlen University College's specialized Graphic and Visual Design program.

In addition to winning the \$1500 award for the winning design concept, Ms. Ho will receive a one-month internship at Ken Koo and Associates, the Vancouver graphics design firm that refined the logo into its final format.

Canada's Year of Asia Pacific

Background

The Government of Canada is pleased to declare 1997 as Canada's Year of Asia Pacific (CYAP). As a people and as a trading nation, Canada has deep ties to the Asia Pacific community. CYAP will celebrate Canada's Pacific dimension and help forge even stronger relationships.

The federal government will work in collaboration with business, cultural and youth groups to encourage them to focus their activities on Asia Pacific in 1997 and become fully involved in this initiative. Activities and events already being organized from coast to coast will offer unprecedented opportunities for all Canadians.

In 1997, Canada will chair the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, which will bring many of the region's government and business leaders to cities across Canada. Created in 1989, APEC has emerged as the leading forum for promoting trade and investment liberalization, business facilitation and economic and technical co-operation in Asia Pacific.

The government will organize events, such as business forums and trade fairs, to help Canadians strengthen their partnerships and learn more about doing business in Asia Pacific. Other key events include the January Team Canada 1997 trade mission to South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines; a youth conference and other activities involving youth; as well as cultural activities to underscore the breadth of Canada's close ties with the region and the importance of cultural understanding in doing business in Asia Pacific.

CYAP will build on the strong foundation of co-operation that exists between Canada and Asia Pacific, and the momentum generated by the highly successful Team Canada trade missions. Led by the Prime Minister, Team Canada missions have opened doors for more than 700 Canadian businesses and helped secure more than \$20 billion in new business deals.

Goals of Canada's Year of Asia Pacific

- To expand Canada's economic partnerships with the Asia Pacific region and to equip Canada to play an increasingly dynamic role in the emerging Pacific community
- To highlight the important role played by the Asia Pacific region in economic growth and job creation in Canada, in the life of the country and in global affairs
- To increase participation in Asia Pacific markets by Canadian business by providing more information on opportunities in the region and on how best to act on them

- To enhance cross-cultural understanding of common concerns related to peace and security, human rights and legal reform, environmental and social development, culture, education and other areas
- To ensure a lasting legacy through new partnerships between Canadian and Asia Pacific business and cultural institutions, better collaboration between governments and the involvement of youth and Asian Canadians.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum

Background

As a Pacific nation and a founding member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, Canada has an important window on this dynamic part of the world. Formed in 1989, APEC is the principal intergovernmental vehicle for economic co-operation in the Asia-Pacific region. It has evolved into a key agenda-setting body, providing an important opportunity to advance Canadian interests.

Canada will see the world come to its doorstep in 1997 when it assumes the chair of APEC. The APEC Ministerial and Economic Leaders' meetings will take place in Vancouver in November 1997. Canada will also host three meetings of senior officials, several sectoral ministerial meetings – including talks on sustainable development, transportation, small and medium-sized enterprises, and energy – and several working group meetings.

Canada's participation in APEC is part of the government's commitment to strengthening Canada's presence in Asia Pacific to create jobs and growth at home and to expand Canada's global involvement and influence. The Team Canada missions to Asia, led by the Prime Minister, also underline Canada's commitment to expanding ties in this region.

As an APEC member, Canada can pursue specific objectives, such as expanding trade opportunities, ensuring sustainable growth and development, and making it easier to do business, especially for small and medium-sized businesses. APEC provides an opportunity for greater co-operation in key areas, including human resources development, telecommunications, energy, the environment, transportation and tourism.

Four of Canada's top 10 export markets and 11 of Canada's top 25 export markets are APEC members. APEC economies now consume half of Canada's total exports to markets outside the United States. Two-way trade with APEC economies (excluding the United States) increased by 20 per cent in 1995 to reach \$62 billion. Canada's exports to APEC economies (excluding the United States) increased by 30 per cent in 1995 to \$27 billion.

Asia Pacific has also become an increasingly important source of foreign direct investment and new technology for Canada. Japan is Canada's third-largest source of direct investment (valued at \$12 billion in 1995) and second-largest source of portfolio investment (\$43.5 billion in March 1996). Other Asia Pacific economies, such as Hong Kong, Australia, Singapore and the Republic of Korea, have also become major investors in Canada.

APEC's 18 current members are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and the United States.

With a combined population of about two billion, APEC members had a combined gross national product of US\$13 trillion in 1994, about half of the world's total annual output.

APEC members represent nearly 50 per cent of the world's total merchandise trade. By the end of the decade, this figure is expected to rise to over 70 per cent. Foreign direct investment flows to the Asian region of APEC increased from US\$5 billion in the 1981-1985 period to US\$21 billion in 1992.

CANADA'S YEAR OF ASIA PACIFIC PRELIMINARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 14 Vancouver, British Columbia	Minister of Transport David Anderson and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan announce Canada's Year of Asia Pacific and unveil winning logo design
November 22-25 Manila and Subic, the Philippines	Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan to attend Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial and Economic Leaders' meetings, including keynote address to be delivered by Prime Minister Chrétien to the APEC Business Forum on November 25
November 26-30	Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Secretary of State (Asia Pacific) Raymond Chan visit China and Japan

1997

January 8-20	Team Canada 1997 mission to South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand
January 7-10 Vancouver, British Columbia	Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum
March	Asia Pacific Week in Atlantic Canada (St. John's Newfoundland: Halifax, Nova Scotia; Charlottetown, P.E.I.; Saint John, New Brunswick)
January 25- February 3 Victoria, British Columbia	APEC Senior Officials' Meeting
April 27-29 Toronto, Ontario	APEC Environment Ministerial Meeting
May 4-10 Winnipeg, Manitoba	"Asia Connects": Asia Pacific Youth Conference

May 4-6 Montreal, Quebec	ASEAN-Canadian Business Council
May 7-9 Montreal, Quebec	APEC Customs "Symposium"
May 11-15 Vancouver, British Columbia	Seventh ACI-Pacific Regional Assembly and Conference, Pacific Region Airports Council
May 12-13 Toronto, Ontario	Canada-Japan Business Committee
May 12-19 Quebec City, Quebec	APEC Senior Officials' Meeting
May 21-25 Banff, Alberta	APEC Study Centre Consortium Meeting
June Montreal. Quebec	Conférence de Montréal
June Winnipeg, Manitoba	Canada-Taiwan Business Association
June Victoria, British Columbia	APEC Transport Ministerial Meeting
August Edmonton, Alberta	APEC Energy Ministerial Meeting
August Vancouver, British Columbia	Fourth World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention
August St. John's, Newfoundland	APEC Senior Officials' Meeting
August Geneva Park, Ontario	Annual Couchiching Conference

September
Ottawa, Ontario

APEC Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Ministerial Meeting
and Business Forum

September
Ottawa, Ontario

Asia Pacific Women's Senior Leaders' Network Meeting

October
Quebec City,
Quebec

Alliance of Manufacturers and Canadian Exporters Awards

November
Vancouver,
British Columbia

APEC Ministerial and Leaders' meetings

As of November 14, 1996

News Release

November 14, 1996

No. 208

CANADA PURSUES BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today announced that his Parliamentary Secretary, Ron MacDonald, will lead a Canada-Arab Business Council (CABC) delegation to the Middle East from November 16 to 24, 1996. The CABC delegation will pursue business opportunities in Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan. From November 25 to 27, Mr. MacDonald will visit Kuwait, Israel and the West Bank and Gaza to conduct bilateral discussions with economic and political leaders from the region.

"The presence of the Canada-Arab Business Council delegation signals the importance Canadian businesses place on the Middle East market," said Mr. MacDonald. "Helping to build a stronger Middle East economy will contribute to the process of achieving a comprehensive and lasting peace in this region. Creating business opportunities in this region will stimulate exports and create jobs for all Canadians."

While in Kuwait, Mr. MacDonald will support the activities of Canadian firms, including the Saint John Shipbuilding Ltd. project. Mr. MacDonald will also meet with officials in Israel and with the Palestinian Authority to discuss regional and bilateral issues including the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.

"Canada continues to liberalize its trade through the establishment of this free trade agreement. Mr. MacDonald's dialogue with the Palestinian Authority will help further our efforts to expand commercial relations with the Palestinian Authority. This includes our desire to extend the benefits of this agreement to goods originating from the West Bank and Gaza," Mr. Eggleton said.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet
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News Release

November 14, 1996

No. 209

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CANADA AND CHILE REACH FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that Canada and Chile have reached a free trade agreement that significantly increases Canadian access to Chilean markets. The agreement includes two parallel agreements on environmental and labour co-operation, modelled on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) side agreements.

"This is a solid deal for both nations, and will boost Canadian exports and create jobs in both countries," said Mr. Eggleton. "This agreement demonstrates our commitment to economic growth through expanded trade and is an important first step in further trade liberalization throughout the hemisphere and beyond."

On December 11, 1994, the Prime Minister of Canada and the presidents of the United States, Mexico and Chile announced their intention to pursue Chile's accession to the NAFTA. In January 1995, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien led a trade delegation to Chile, the first such mission to Chile by a Canadian leader. He was accompanied by more than 250 business people.

On December 29, 1995, Canada and Chile committed to negotiate an interim free trade agreement as a bridge to Chile's accession to the NAFTA. The first round of negotiations took place in January 1996 in Santiago. Since then, nine further negotiating rounds, generally alternating between Canada and Chile, have taken place.

The agreement's key features are:

- Immediate duty-free access for most industrial goods, which account for 80 per cent of Canadian exports, and the elimination of Chile's 11 per cent import duty on almost all remaining industrial and resource-based goods over five years. Better access for a range of agricultural goods, including durum wheat, barley, lentils, seed potatoes, pork, canola products and beef. Canadian exporters' overall access to Chilean markets will now be better than that of their competitors in the United States, the European Union, Argentina and Brazil.



- Significant new protection for Canadian investments in Chile, including an agreement to automatically grant Canadian investors the benefits of any further liberalization that may occur in the future.
- Important new guarantees for Canadian exporters of services.
- The creation of a Free Trade Commission and secretariat to ensure the timely and effective resolution of disputes.
- Side agreements on environment and labour that reflect both countries' emphasis on increased co-operation and effective enforcement of domestic laws in these areas. These are the first agreements of this nature ever signed by the Government of Chile.
- The mutual elimination of anti-dumping duties within a maximum of six years. This will further guarantee barrier-free access for Canadian exports to Chile and contribute to making further progress in reforming anti-dumping law internationally.

The agreement also exempts cultural industries, the Auto Pact, and supply-managed products, and fully protects social and health services. The agreement will be approved during the November 17-19 visit to Canada of Chilean President Eduardo Frei, and should be implemented on June 2, 1997.

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Highlights of the agreement are attached.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CANADA-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Barrier-Free Access to Chile

- Immediate elimination of the 11 per cent Chilean duty for the vast majority of Canadian industrial and resource-based exports, providing significantly improved access to the Chilean market. Tariffs on the remainder of these goods will be reduced immediately to at least 8 per cent and be phased-out over a maximum period of five years.
- Canadian exporters gain important advantage over their principal competitors in the Chilean market, including the U.S., European and Asian suppliers, as well as Chile's regional trading partners.
- Immediate duty-free access for exports of Canadian durum wheat (from April to November), barley, lentils, canary seed, seed potatoes, malt, beer, raspberries, maple syrup, mustard products, flavoured waters and various fruit juices. Immediate duty-free access for important quantities of beef, pork and canola oil.

Rules of Origin

- Familiar rules of origin modelled on those found in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with a transitionally reduced value content level for certain sectors, which provides Canadian manufacturers with preferential access without requiring major changes to their current sourcing of materials and parts.

Investment

- Additional benefits and guarantees, unprecedented outside the NAFTA context, for Canadian investors in Chile.
- National treatment and most-favoured-nation clauses, ensuring non-discriminatory treatment for Canadian investors and guaranteeing the automatic extension of the benefits of any future liberalization to Canada.
- Limitations on the conditions for expropriation and guarantees of fair and adequate compensation if an expropriation were ever to occur.
- Access to investor-state dispute settlement provisions that offer access to expedient international arbitration procedures.
- No screening mechanisms which could block entry or otherwise impede Canadian commercial interests.

Services

- Locks in Chile's open regulatory regime to ensure that Canadian services providers will continue to benefit from a transparent, largely barrier-free business environment. Service sectors that will benefit include consulting engineering, and mining, forestry and environmental enhancement services.
- Canada will also automatically benefit from any future liberalization by Chile related to trade in services.
- Retention of NAFTA-level protection, including a very broad carve-out covering social services, including health services.

Trade Remedies

- The agreement gradually phases out the use of anti-dumping measures between the parties over a six-year period. This will ensure that market access commitments gained by Canada are not interrupted by the imposition of anti-dumping actions by Chile. As a potential NAFTA member, a mutual exemption from the application of anti-dumping duties in this free trade agreement (FTA) is consistent with the Canadian government's long-standing objective to reform and eventually eliminate the use of anti-dumping duties within the NAFTA. The right of each party to take countervailing duty action against subsidized imports and to utilize safeguard measures is not affected.

Other Benefits

- The Auto Pact remains unaffected.
- Cultural industries are exempted.
- Over-quota tariffs for dairy, poultry and eggs are preserved.
- Improved temporary entry provisions that provide for expedited entry for Canadian investors, business visitors, inter-company transferees and other business professionals.
- An effective and timely procedure for the settlement of disputes that is not subject to appeal.
- An agreement on competition policy modelled on the NAFTA.

- Side agreements on environment and labour that complement the FTA, reflecting the priority the two countries place on enhanced co-operation and effective enforcement in these areas.
- These side agreements provide a unique opportunity for Canada to participate actively in the further modernization of Chile's labour and environmental laws and practices, as Chile does not have such agreements with any other country.

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News Release

November 15, 1996

No. 210

CANADA WELCOMES UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO ZAIRE

The Government of Canada today welcomed United Nations Security Council resolution 1080, which authorizes a multinational humanitarian force, under Canadian command, to eastern Zaire. The passage of the resolution officially enables the deployment of the multinational force.

The mission's mandate is to: i) facilitate the immediate return of humanitarian organizations and the effective delivery by civilian relief organizations of humanitarian aid to alleviate the immediate suffering of displaced persons, refugees and civilians at risk in eastern Zaire, and ii) facilitate the voluntary, orderly repatriation of refugees by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees as well as the voluntary return of displaced persons.

The multinational force will be in the field for a period of four months, to March 31, 1997. The resolution identifies the need for a follow-on operation to succeed the multinational force.

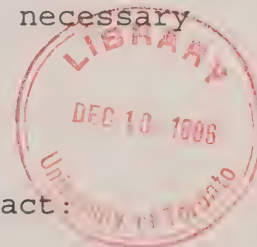
The costs of the operation are to be borne by participating states and through a voluntary trust fund to support African participation in the multinational force.

The Security Council has authorized the mission under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, which allows for the use of force if necessary to meet the objectives of the mission.

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News Release

November 18, 1996

DEC 13 1996

No. 211



CANADA AND CHILE SIGN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Chilean President Eduardo Frei today signed the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement in Ottawa during the President's state visit to Canada.

"This agreement demonstrates Canada's determination to create jobs and encourage economic growth through trade liberalization," said the Prime Minister. "It also gives us momentum in developing closer political and economic ties with all of Latin America."

The agreement includes two parallel agreements on environmental and labour co-operation, modelled on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) side agreements.

The trade agreement's key features are as follows:

- Immediate duty-free access for 75 per cent of Canadian exports and the elimination of Chile's 11-per-cent import duty on almost all remaining industrial and resource-based goods over five years.
- Much better access for a range of agricultural goods. For example, tariffs for durum wheat, which represents 35 per cent of exports in this sector, will be eliminated immediately.
- Significant new protection for Canadian investments in Chile, including an agreement to automatically grant Canadian investors the benefits of any future liberalization, and an undertaking to negotiate a bilateral double taxation agreement.
- The creation of a Free Trade Commission and secretariat to ensure the timely and effective resolution of disputes.
- Side agreements on environment and labour, the first agreements of this nature ever signed by the Government of Chile.



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- The mutual elimination of anti-dumping duties within a maximum of six years.

The agreement also exempts cultural industries and supply-managed products, fully protects social and health services, and does not affect the Auto Pact.

Canada and Chile also signed two other agreements:

- An Agreement on Social Security will ensure continued coverage when a Canadian employee is sent to Chile, and will allow Canadians to avoid having to pay into both the Canada Pension Plan and its Chilean equivalent. It will also allow Chileans now living in Canada to receive Chilean pensions.
- An agreement between the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and its Chilean counterpart will ease the way for development co-operation between Canada and Chile, including on projects with third countries.

President Frei was greeted Sunday by Governor General Roméo LeBlanc. He met with Prime Minister Chrétien and several cabinet ministers today. He is accompanied by members of his cabinet and a business delegation.

Tuesday the President will meet with Ontario Premier Michael Harris and business leaders in Toronto before ending his visit to Canada.

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A summary of the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement is attached.

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SUMMARY OF CANADA-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Canada and Chile "interim" bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will provide a bridge to Chile's eventual accession to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and create momentum for the broader Free Trade Area of the Americas initiative. The Agreement covers trade in goods and services, investment and dispute settlement mechanisms. Canada enjoys an excellent reputation as a high-quality supplier, which enhances the potential for sales of our goods and services and for technology contracts with Chile. There are two side agreements on environment and labour which complement the FTA and will strengthen co-operation and promote the further development and effective enforcement of domestic laws and regulations in those areas.

The key features of the Agreement are:

- The elimination of the 11-per-cent Chilean duty which is levied on all imports, providing significantly improved access to the Chilean market, including immediate duty-free access for a wide range of Canadian goods. As most Chilean goods already enter Canada duty free and all Canadian exports must pay the 11-per-cent Chilean duty, the removal of the tariff on the majority of products under the FTA is particularly favourable to Canada.
- Additional benefits and significantly improved guarantees for Canadian investors in Chile, unprecedented outside the NAFTA context.
- A more secure regulatory regime for Canadian service providers exporting to the Chilean market, guaranteeing NAFTA-quality rights.
- Side agreements on environment and labour reflecting the priority the two countries place on enhanced co-operation and effective enforcement in these areas. These agreements provide a unique opportunity for Canada to participate actively in the further modernization of Chile's labour and environmental laws and practices, as Chile does not have such agreements with any other country.

As in the NAFTA, the Canada-Chile FTA contains a full-scope exemption for cultural industries; the broadest possible carve-out for social services, including health services; the exclusion of over-quota tariffs for supply-managed products; and an agreement on competition policy. The terms of the Auto Pact are unaffected.

The Agreement should enter into force on June 2, 1997, following legislative approval in both countries.

Market Access

Canada and Chile have agreed to the immediate elimination of tariffs for the majority of key Canadian industrial export interests to Chile. Tariffs on most other industrial and resource-based goods, other than footwear, will be phased out over a maximum of five years. As a result of this FTA, Canadian exporters will now pay a zero or steadily declining duty on all industrial goods (which account for 80 per cent of Canada's exports to Chile). This will give Canadian exporters an important advantage over their principal competitors in the Chilean market, including U.S., European and Asian suppliers, as well as Chile's regional trading partners. Excellent opportunities will exist in the following sectors: machinery and equipment, particularly for use in mining and forestry; telecommunications equipment; fertilizers; metallurgical and thermal coal; pharmaceuticals; certain chemical and glass products; a range of wood and paper products; aircraft; rail and urban rail equipment; autos and auto parts; and health and medical equipment.

For textiles and apparel, the Agreement provides for a longer tariff phase-out of up to six years for Canada and five years for Chile, and a special safeguard provision to guard against import surges during the phase-out period. These provisions mirror those included in the NAFTA. Tariffs on footwear will be phased out over six years in both countries.

The rules of origin in the FTA will be familiar to Canadian producers and exporters as they are modelled on those found in the NAFTA. However, in recognition of the structure and openness of both the Canadian and Chilean economies, the rules of origin for certain manufactured products have been relaxed on a transitional basis. In these cases, the rule has been modified to provide Canadian manufacturers with preferential access without requiring major changes to their current sourcing of materials and parts. At the same time, the NAFTA rules of origin have been retained in sectors such as agriculture, most chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel.

The Canadian agri-food sector will benefit from immediate duty-free access for exports of Canadian durum wheat (from mid-April to mid-November - i.e., during the Canadian shipping period to Chile), barley, lentils, canary seed, seed potatoes, malt, beer, raspberries, maple syrup, mustard products, mineral waters and various fruit juices. The FTA also provides immediate duty-free access for important quantities of beef, pork and canola oil. Duties on Canadian exports will be reduced to zero over five years for a variety of processed agri-food products, including frozen peas, confectionery products, chewing gum, chocolate, baked goods, pasta, soups and pet food. For milling wheat, Chile's most sensitive product, a longer phase-out of 17 years

will apply. Canada will phase out a limited number of tariffs over six years, primarily for horticultural products. Over-quota Most Favoured Nation (MFN) tariffs for dairy, poultry and eggs are excluded from tariff elimination. All fish and fish products will enter Chile on a duty-free basis upon implementation of the FTA.

Canada's access to the Chilean market provided through this FTA for key export interests in the industrial, agricultural and resource-based sectors will be comparable to or better than that provided to competitors from Argentina and Brazil through Chile's recent trade agreement with Mercosur (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay).

Moreover, should Chile grant even better access for certain agri-food products in a future trade agreement with the Mercosur countries, Canadian exporters will automatically receive these benefits for milling wheat, wheat flour, oilseeds and oilseed oils. In addition, any better access ever negotiated with the United States for those products, as well as for pork, beef, potatoes, dried peas and cereal products, will also be provided automatically to Canada. This approach represents a significant guarantee that Canadian exporters of those products will remain highly competitive in the Chilean market.

Canada and Chile have agreed to maintain their respective duty drawback programs, which allow for the refund of customs duties levied on imported materials and components incorporated into exported goods. The Agreement prohibits the imposition or maintenance of customs user fees, and Chile has agreed to eliminate its existing fees. The customs procedures also parallel those found in the NAFTA and are designed to facilitate trade, while ensuring effective administration and enforcement of the rules of origin and other customs matters. The FTA reflects NAFTA provisions as they relate to the temporary duty-free entry of necessary professional equipment and tools of the trade for business persons. These rules also cover goods imported for sports purposes or display and demonstration, commercial samples and goods that have undergone repair or alteration in the other country.

Investment

With current Canadian investments in Chile totalling more than C\$7 billion, and given Canada's position as the second largest foreign investor in Chile, investment plays a very important role in the bilateral relationship. This Agreement will significantly improve the overall legal regime applying to Canadian investors in Chile by providing them with additional benefits and guarantees unprecedented outside the NAFTA context. Chile has agreed to the full range of NAFTA disciplines on non-discriminatory treatment. Through national treatment and MFN

clauses, the FTA will ensure that Canadian investors will be treated similarly to Chilean investors and will receive benefits equivalent to those Chile may grant to other countries in future agreements. In addition, the Agreement carefully limits the conditions for expropriation and guarantees Canadian investors fair and adequate compensation if an expropriation were ever to occur. The FTA allows Canadian investors to take advantage of investor-state dispute settlement provisions which offer access to expedient international arbitration procedures.

Canada has preserved the right to maintain certain exceptions to the investment obligations similar to those under NAFTA. The FTA also freezes the current Chilean investment regime at its already liberal level, while ensuring that Canadian investors will benefit from any future liberalization. In addition, the FTA ensures that Canadians wishing to invest in Chile will not be subject to any screening mechanisms which could block entry or otherwise impede Canadian commercial interests.

While the Agreement will allow Chile to maintain existing capital control measures, it nevertheless prevents Chile from imposing more restrictive measures against Canadian investors. The FTA will not permit Chile to increase its current 30-per-cent reserve requirement on foreign credits, and limits the reserve to a maximum two-year period. The reserve has been frozen to apply to foreign loans and to portfolio investments entering Chile, but does not apply to foreign direct investment except for the foreign credit portion of these investments. In addition, the restriction applicable to repatriation of investments in Chile will be limited to the current period of one year.

Services

The FTA marks a significant further guarantee of liberalization in the area of services. In particular, the Agreement freezes Chile's current regulatory regime, which is relatively open by international standards. This will ensure that Canadian service providers will continue to benefit from a transparent, objective business environment. The freeze on Chile's regulatory regime will prevent Chile from enacting any new discriminatory measures. Moreover, the Agreement ensures that Canada will benefit from any future liberalization by Chile related to trade in services.

The FTA also includes provisions on temporary entry which expedite entry for Canadian investors, business visitors, inter-company transferees and other business professionals.

In sensitive sectors, Canada retained the same level of protection already set out in the NAFTA, including a carve-out covering specific social services (among them health). This reservation not only protects existing health measures but also

affords policy makers the flexibility to introduce new measures to ensure the integrity of the Canadian health system.

The Agreement will enhance commercial opportunities for Canadian service providers in sectors such as mining, forestry, construction, engineering and other professional services, consulting services, specialty air services, education and training, and tourism. Both countries have agreed to monitor carefully the ongoing implementation process and to seek further opportunities for liberalization following implementation.

Institutional Arrangements and Dispute Settlement Provisions

The institutional arrangements set out in the FTA ensure joint decision making and effective dispute resolution. Canada and Chile will have an equal voice in resolving problems through ready access to objective dispute settlement panels providing authoritative interpretations. The Agreement establishes the Free Trade Commission and the FTA Secretariat. The Commission will supervise the implementation and any further elaboration of the Agreement, and will resolve any disputes that may arise. The Secretariat will establish offices in each country and support the Commission, as well as acting as registrar for dispute settlement panels and as the depository for investor-state disputes.

The Agreement obliges Canada and Chile to seek agreed interpretations and reach agreed solutions, reflecting the commitment of the two governments to manage their trade relations amicably. In the event that any matter arises that might affect the operation of the Agreement, either country may request consultations with the other. Should consultations fail to resolve the matter, either country may request a meeting of the Commission. The Agreement directs the Commission to settle the dispute promptly. If the countries are unable to agree on a mutually acceptable solution, either may initiate arbitral panel proceedings. These provisions provide an effective, timely and final procedure for the settlement of disputes.

Trade Remedies

Canada and Chile have negotiated a mutual exemption from the application of anti-dumping duties in the FTA. Canadian exports will be protected against future Chilean anti-dumping actions, a guarantee currently unavailable to U.S. and other exporters in that market. As Chile is a potential NAFTA Party, this exemption is consistent with the Canadian government's long-standing public commitment to minimizing and eventually eliminating the use of anti-dumping duties within NAFTA. The Agreement provides for a phase-in of the exemption linked to the final elimination of import duties in both countries for each individual product, or after six years at the latest. This transitional period will

provide for a mandatory review of the exemption in five years. The agreement also includes a formal consultation process to deal with any extraordinary circumstances caused by the imposition of import measures by another country that may significantly divert trade. The agreed-upon process is designed to facilitate the prompt restoration of normal trading patterns.

Labour Co-operation

A Labour Co-operation Agreement patterned after the North American Agreement on Labour Co-operation (NAALC) complements the Canada-Chile FTA. Building on the FTA preamble, the goals of the Labour Agreement are to promote the improvement of working conditions and living standards in the two countries and to protect, enhance and enforce basic workers' rights. The Agreement reflects the shared recognition that future prosperity depends on the promotion of fair and open competition based on innovation and rising levels of productivity, with due regard for the respect of labour laws and principles.

The Agreement is designed to:

- increase co-operation and promote greater understanding in a broad range of labour areas, through such means as publication and exchange of information on labour law and enforcement and compliance procedures;
- oblige each Party to ensure the effective enforcement of its domestic labour laws;
- establish mechanisms to solve problems through bilateral co-operative consultations;
- provide for objective and comparative evaluations of patterns of practice by independent committees of experts, which will be made public; and
- in certain cases, allow for dispute settlement procedures.

The Agreement creates a new Canada-Chile institutional linkage through a Commission for Labour Co-operation, which will deal with labour issues in a co-operative and consultative manner. The Labour Commission consists of a Council of the labour ministers from the two signatory countries and a supporting National Secretariat in each country.

An important dimension of the Agreement is the establishment of joint co-operative programs on key labour questions. This co-operative forum will encourage government, business and labour to strengthen their contacts, discuss best practices, and develop knowledge and expertise about each country's practices and systems.

Another major feature of the Agreement is that it commits each country to the effective enforcement of its labour laws. This commitment applies to 11 basic labour principles covering industrial relations matters such as freedom of association and the right to organize, employment standards, and occupational safety and health standards. Canadians will have access to an international instrument to raise concerns about the enforcement of labour legislation in Chile, notably in the traded sector, and to have their concerns debated and resolved through formal procedures.

Environmental Co-operation

The Canada-Chile Agreement on Environmental Co-operation is a parallel Agreement accompanying the Canada-Chile FTA which includes similar provisions to the NAFTA environmental side agreement (the North American Agreement on Environmental Co-operation, or NAAEC). Through the proposed interim Canada-Chile Agreement on Environmental Co-operation, both countries commit to effectively enforcing their environmental laws. Failure to effectively enforce environmental laws can be addressed through a process of citizen submissions and through a formal dispute settlement process between governments. Canada and Chile also agree to strengthen environmental co-operation, building on the progress made through the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Environmental Co-operation signed in January 1995 during Prime Minister Chrétien's visit to Chile.

The institutional overlay of the existing NAFTA side agreements has been modified to reflect the interim nature of this bilateral Agreement. The Canada-Chile Agreement establishes a Council of Environment Ministers, a Joint Public Advisory Committee (consisting of three representatives from each country) and small National Secretariats in each country responsible for implementation.

The main difference between the Canada-Chile Agreement on Environmental Co-operation and the environmental side agreement of the NAFTA is that its application to Chilean laws will be phased in over a two-year period. This adaptation provides for the full coverage of Chilean environmental law. It also clearly indicates the Chilean government's willingness to engage in an open discussion with non-governmental groups on how best to reform those laws requiring modernization during the two-year transition period.

The Canada-Chile FTA also specifically identifies goals such as environmental protection and conservation, sustainable development, and the strengthening of the development and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations.

The 1995 MOU on Environmental Co-operation focuses on capacity building, technology transfer, environmental management, technical assistance and international co-operation. The MOU has also helped to increase Canadian trade with Chile in environmental technologies and services, as well as to enhance Canada's profile in terms of the development of environmental regulations and legislation.

Backgrounder

CANADA-CHILE TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Chile has the most stable and fastest-growing economy in its region; over the last decade, annual economic growth has averaged almost 7 per cent.
- Market-oriented policies have encouraged an entrepreneurial spirit and a strong private sector. With low unemployment, falling inflation and rising wages, Chile has established its credentials as a desirable trade and investment partner.
- Chile has strong trade links in the region, and with the European Union and Asia. Many companies are finding that Chile is an excellent gateway to the expanding markets of Latin America.
- Chile's market liberalization and economic stabilization programs have already led to a significant increase in the volume of Canadian business with that country.
- Total two-way Canada-Chile trade has increased dramatically since 1990, with shipments totalling \$666 million in 1995, up 20 per cent from the 1994 total of \$553 million.
- Canadian exports to Chile increased 47 per cent from 1993 to 1994, and a further 23 per cent to \$387 million in 1995. In that year, the trade balance was \$109 million in Canada's favour.
- Tight, responsible fiscal policies have created an attractive investment climate in Chile. Investment has grown from 14 per cent of GDP in the mid-1980s to an average of 20 per cent in the last three years.
- Canadian investment in Chile is in excess of \$7 billion, making Canada the second largest foreign investor in that country. Canadians have invested in such sectors as mining, energy and telecommunications.
- These investments are encouraging further exports of Canadian value-added goods and are generating jobs in Canada. The trade agreement with Chile will help protect current and future Canadian investments.
- Canadian exporters of services to Chile are increasingly active in areas such as consulting engineering, mining and forestry, and environmental enhancement.

Chile

General Description

Population:	14.2 million (1996 est.)
Capital:	Santiago
Pop. Growth Rate:	1.6% (1996 est.)
Total Area:	756,626 km ²
Currency:	C\$1 = 300.1 Pesos (August 1996)
Language:	Spanish (official)
Literacy:	93% (94%M/93%F) (1990 est.)
Life Expectancy:	71M/77F
National Day:	September 18 (Independence Day)

Political Data

Type of Government: Republic, bicameral congress
Head of State and Government:
 President Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle
 Partido Demócrata Cristiano, head of Concertación Nacional
 Coalition of centre-left parties.
Minister of Foreign Relations: José Miguel Insulza
Minister of Economy: Alvaro García Hurtado
Minister of Finance: Eduardo Aninat Ureta

Economic Data (\$US)

GDP:	\$67.3 bn (1995)
GDP Growth Rate:	8.5% (1995); 7% (1996 est.)
GDP per Capita:	\$4,700 (1995)
Inflation Rate:	8.2%(1995); 7% (1996 est.)
Unemployment Rate:	5.4% (1995); 6.6% (June 1996)
Total External Debt:	\$21.8bn (1995)

Trade with Canada:

(\$ millions)	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>
E.P. to Chile:	154.7	212.8	314.4	387.4
E.P. from Chile:	202.5	209.3	238.1	278.9
Balance:	-47.8	3.5	76.3	108.5

Major Canadian Imports from Chile:

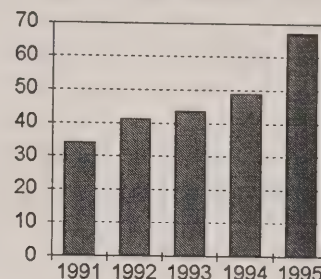
Fruit and nuts, copper and related articles, beverages, spirits, ores, slag, iron and steel.

Major Canadian Exports to Chile:

Grains, cereals, electrical machinery equipment, ores, slag, mineral fuels, fertilizers, salt, plastics.

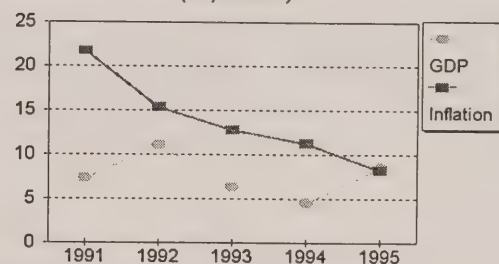
Direct Canadian Investment in Chile: in excess of C\$7 billion (actual and planned)

Chile's GDP
(in US\$ billions)



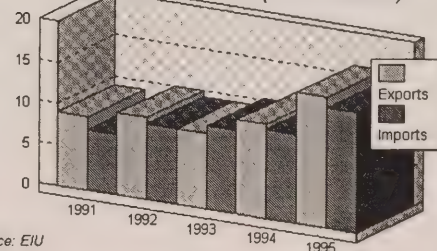
Source: EIU

Growth Rates: GDP vs Inflation
(in percent)



Source: EIU

Total Foreign Trade
(in US\$ billions)



Source: EIU

News Release

November 18, 1996

No. 212

CANADIAN DELEGATES DENIED VISAS FOR COMMONWEALTH MINISTERIAL ACTION GROUP MISSION TO NIGERIA

In London today, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart regretted Nigeria's decision to deny visas for two members of the Canadian delegation participating in the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) visit to Nigeria. As a result of this refusal, the Canadian delegation will not participate in the mission.

"CMAG has a mandate from the Commonwealth to look into countries violating human rights and democracy," said Mrs. Stewart. "Canada has been active from the beginning, and we saw the current mission into Nigeria as being an important step in getting some of the information needed to fulfil our mandate."

"I regret Nigeria's refusal to issue visas to the entire delegation to enable them to participate in this particular mission," added Mrs. Stewart. "However, we encouraged other CMAG members to go and we look forward to meeting again in January to review the mission's report and carry on the group's work."

Canada is also working with other like-minded governments, as well as Canadian NGOs and the business community, to facilitate progress in Nigeria.

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News Release

November 19, 1996

No. 213

STEWART TO CONSULT WITH AFRICAN NATIONS ON CRISIS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will hold consultations with African leaders this week to assess the evolving situation in Central Africa.

"We must ensure that African countries within the region and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) are directly involved with all aspects of this humanitarian mission," said Mrs. Stewart. "I want to hear what regional leaders recommend for both the immediate crisis and longer-term stability in the Great Lakes area."

Mrs. Stewart will discuss the impact of recent developments on the ground and the need for a peace-building initiative in Central Africa once the present humanitarian crisis has been addressed. She will confer with South African Foreign Minister Nzo, OAU Secretary-General Salim Salim and Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, as well as several OAU ambassadors. In addition to visiting South Africa and Ethiopia, Mrs. Stewart may make additional stops on her tour through the region.

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News Release

November 21, 1996

No. 214

CANADA SUPPORTS EUROPEAN UNION REQUEST FOR WTO PANEL ON HELMS-BURTON

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, said today that Canada will support the European Union (EU) in its World Trade Organization (WTO) panel complaint against the U.S. Helms-Burton Act. The EU gained WTO permission for a panel hearing yesterday.

"Through Helms-Burton, the United States is taking unilateral action against companies that are doing lawful business with Cuba," said Mr. Eggleton. "Opposing the Act in concert with the EU and other major trade partners sends a strong message that the international community does not accept Helms-Burton."

As a third party in the European Union case, Canada will have the right to make written and oral submissions to the WTO panel. The panel must reflect these submissions in its report.

The Helms-Burton Act allows U.S. citizens to sue in U.S. courts Canadian companies deemed to be "trafficking" in property expropriated from them by the Cuban government. In July, President Clinton suspended this right to sue for six months. The Act also allows for the denial of entry to the U.S. of Canadians who are executives of "trafficking" companies, along with their spouses and children.

Canada has responded to Helms-Burton by amending the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) to allow Canadians facing claims from Americans under the Helms-Burton Act to seek recourse in Canadian courts. FEMA also makes clear that no Helms-Burton judgment will be recognized or enforced in any manner in Canada.

The amendments to FEMA have been passed by Parliament and will soon enter into force.

Canada has also held consultations with the U.S. under the North American Free Trade Agreement and has pursued the issue in international organizations such as the United Nations, the



Organization of American States and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

- 30 -

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News Release

November 24, 1996

No. 215

EGGLETON TO PROMOTE CANADIAN BUSINESS IN SUZHOU, CHINA

Minister for International Trade, Art Eggleton, announced today that he will visit the city of Suzhou in Jiangsu Province, China, on November 25 with about 175 Canadian business people.

"Business relations between Canadian and Suzhou companies are gaining force with each passing day," said Mr. Eggleton. "I look forward to meeting government and business leaders to underscore Canada's commitment to partnerships in Suzhou."

Mr. Eggleton will meet the Mayor of Suzhou, Mr. Zhang Xin Sheng, and tour the Suzhou New District. The visit will provide an opportunity to view developments taking place along the Yangtze Delta and business opportunities in Suzhou.

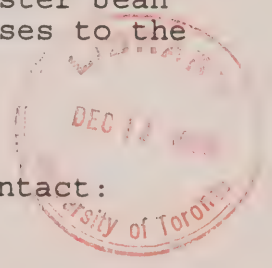
Suzhou is twinned with Vancouver, British Columbia, and is the nearest neighbouring city of Shanghai. With economic growth exceeding 15 per cent in recent years, it has become a key centre of light industry and pharmaceutical manufacturing. More than 60 foreign firms have committed US\$2 billion in investment since the Suzhou Industrial Park was established in 1994.

The business mission is being organized by the Canada-China Business Council as part of their Annual General Meeting and Policy Conference being held in Shanghai. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Mr. Eggleton will deliver keynote addresses to the conference on November 26.

- 30 -

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News Release

November 26, 1996

No. 216

EGGLETON ANNOUNCES NEW INTERNET PAGE ON CANADA AND THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, announced today that the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has posted a new web page on its Internet home page focussing on Canada and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

"Canada has played a key role in establishing the WTO," said Mr. Eggleton. "It is in our interest to have a strong and effective rules-based trading system because international trade is fundamental to economic growth and job creation in this country."

The new service has been set up to inform Canadians on the WTO and its importance to Canada. At the outset, there will be speeches and information on the Canadian position on key multilateral trade policy issues in preparation for the organization's first meeting of ministers in Singapore, December 9-13. New items on the Singapore meeting will be added in coming days. The new site will have links to the WTO's own Internet site.

The WTO, established January 1, 1995, oversees the multilateral trading system. It has close to 130 members, covering most world trade.

The Internet address of the new page is:
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/english/whatsnew/menu.htm
under "Trade General."

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News Release

November 26, 1996

No. 217

EGGLETON ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL EXPORT FINANCING FOR CHINA

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today announced, at the Canada-China Business Council annual general meeting in Shanghai, Canada's intention to negotiate the extension of a concessional line of credit to China for up to \$75 million.

"Canada is committed to supporting Canadian businesses in China," said Mr. Eggleton. "The extension of a concessional line of credit will ensure that Canadian exporters are on the same footing as competitors who use similar financing facilities in China."

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has been asked to begin discussions with Chinese officials on this concessional line of financing. The EDC also has available several commercial lines of credit with Chinese banks. These lines can provide up to \$430 million in export financing to support the sale of Canadian goods and services.

As Canada's fourth-largest export market, China constitutes a priority country for Canadian exporters. Many of Canada's strengths closely match China's needs, making China a key market for Canadian exports of value-added goods and related services.

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News Release

November 26, 1996

No. 218

NEW BUSINESS AND CULTURAL AGREEMENTS IN CHINA

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today witnessed the signing of 11 new agreements valued at \$96 million between Canadian and Chinese organizations during his trip to Shanghai.

"I am pleased to see that, since the Prime Minister led the first Team Canada mission in 1994, Canadian companies continue to achieve significant success in China," said Mr. Eggleton. "Today's signings attest to the diverse opportunities to create jobs and growth in both our nations."

The new agreements include six commercial contracts valued at \$79 million and five agreements in principle, such as memoranda of understanding, valued at \$17 million.

The Canadian organizations entering into new relationships in China today represent a wide range of industries and expertise from across Canada. Four of the signing organizations also participated in the 1994 Team Canada mission to China.

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Details of the agreements signed today in Shanghai are attached.

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NEW CANADIAN INITIATIVES IN CHINA
Background on Signing Ceremony in Shanghai
November 26, 1996

The Canadian Environment Industry Association - Ottawa, Ontario

A national federation of nine provincial environment industry associations, the Canadian Environment Industry Association, signed a memorandum of understanding with the China Association of Environmental Protection Industry. The parties agreed to exchange information, increase mutual understanding and promote opportunities for co-operation, in recognition of Canada's expertise in environmental protection and of China's emergence as a significant market for the industry.

The Certified General Accountants Association of Canada* - Vancouver, British Columbia

The Certified General Accountants Association of Canada signed a memorandum of co-operation with the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants to establish strong links between the two accounting bodies. Under the agreement, the Association will provide professional accounting courses and related products with a potential value of \$10 million over the next five years to help develop the infrastructure of the Chinese accounting profession.

Chmiel/Panzini Architects - Ottawa, Ontario

Urbanics Consultants Ltd. - Vancouver, British Columbia

Chmiel/Panzini Architects and Urbanics Consultants signed a technical services agreement with the Administrative Commission of Nanhui County and Lu Chao Gang Development Area to study the expansion and development of the Lu Chao Gang port located near Shanghai. The study will examine the technical, operational and economic potential for the port to increase its present passenger traffic and to handle cargo. The cost of Phase One of the study is set at \$600 000, with Phase Two covering detailed design and construction at an estimated cost of \$150 million.

Harris-Farinon Canada* - Dollard des Ormeaux, Quebec

The Harris-Farinon company designs and manufactures state-of-the-art radio communication networks. It signed two memoranda of understanding in Shanghai: one with the Guangxi Power Administration to equip 23 stations in the province of Guangxi with digital microwave radios; the other with Shaanxi Water Resources Bureau to sell a digital microwave system consisting of 17 stations to be used in the Wei River. The projects have estimated values of \$4.1 million and \$2.8 million respectively.

National Capital Commission - Ottawa, Ontario

The National Capital Commission signed a cultural agreement with the Harbin People's Municipal Government, creating a link between the Ice and Snow Festival in Harbin and the Winterlude Festival in Ottawa, two world-class winter events. This exchange provides an

opportunity to showcase each country's culture, ice-carving skills and winter traditions.

Propak Systems Ltd. - Calgary, Alberta

Propak Systems Ltd., which operates engineering and manufacturing facilities for the oil and gas processing industry, signed a contract with the Shanghai Petroleum Corporation to provide a modular 1.6 million standard cubic metres/day Cryogenic LPG Recovery Plant to process offshore gas from the Pinghu Oil and Gas Field. The plant will be operational in 1998 and produce natural gas for residential use as a substitute for coal. The contract is valued at \$15 million.

Technophar Equipment* - Windsor, Ontario

Technophar Equipment and Services Ltd., which supplies specialized equipment and technology for the pharmaceutical industry, signed a contract with Kunming Pharmaceutical Corporation of Kunming City to deliver a turnkey project including four soft capsule production machines. The contract is valued at approximately \$2.7 million.

Tecsult International Ltd. - Montreal, Quebec

Seed Co., a Quebec corporation, was formed by Microlink International Group Inc. and Tecsult International Ltd. to develop energy and environment projects, commencing with the Yanzhou Co-generation Project and four power plants with a 580 megawatt total capacity. Tecsult has agreed with the Shanghai Electric Corporation that the latter will be the prime turnkey contractor for all Seed Co.'s projects under Tecsult's supervision. The first project will commence no later than January 1997.

Westcoast Energy International* - Vancouver, British Columbia

Westcoast Energy International Inc., a subsidiary of Westcoast Energy Inc., signed a joint venture contract with Shanghai No. 1 Iron & Steel (Group) Co. Ltd. to build, own, operate and ultimately transfer a 50 megawatt power plant. Westcoast will be project manager and plant operator for the first 15 years of the 20-year joint-venture contract. Shanghai No. 1 Iron & Steel will purchase the power produced from the plant. The project value is \$40.7 million.

Xenexi Telecommunications Development Inc.* - Vancouver, British Columbia

As majority participant in a joint venture, Xenexi Telecommunications Development Inc. signed a contract with Water Resources Information Centre of Beijing to equip and construct a VSAT (very small aperture terminal) satellite supervisory control and data acquisition network for gathering information from water information stations throughout China. The project has a value of \$20 million.

* Participated in the 1994 Team Canada mission to China.

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News Release

November 26, 1996

No. 219

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EGGLETON UNVEILS FIRST CHINA AND HONG KONG TRADE ACTION PLAN

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today unveiled Canada's first China and Hong Kong Trade Action Plan at the Canada-China Business Council's annual general meeting and policy conference in Shanghai.

"The China and Hong Kong markets hold significant potential for Canadian firms," stated Mr. Eggleton in his keynote speech at the conference. "The action plan is designed to assist export-ready Canadian companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, to take maximum advantage of business opportunities in China and Hong Kong."

China and Hong Kong taken together represent Canada's third-largest export market after the United States and Japan. The China and Hong Kong Trade Action Plan provides a strategic framework for the Canadian government and business community to work together to meet the challenge of \$20 billion in two-way trade with China and Hong Kong by the year 2000, the goal set by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Chinese Premier Li Peng in November 1994.

"The decision to combine China and Hong Kong in one trade action plan recognizes the growing interdependence of their economies as 1997 draws near," stated Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan, also in Shanghai. "It also highlights Hong Kong's potential in facilitating the entry of Canadian companies into China, while recognizing the distinct nature of the Hong Kong market."

Developed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in consultation with the Canadian public and private sectors, the trade action plan aims to expand Canada's market presence in China and Hong Kong by focussing on 14 promising business sectors. These are advanced technology; agriculture, fish and seafood; business, professional and educational services; construction; consumer goods; cultural industries;



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environment; financial services; forestry; medical and health care products; mining, metals and minerals; oil and gas; power; and transportation.

The plan will be revised and reissued on an annual basis in consultation with all stakeholders, to reflect market changes and incorporate adjustments to the trade development strategy.

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News Release

November 27, 1996

No. 220

CANADA AND JAPAN AGREE TO CO-OPERATE ON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THIRD COUNTRIES

In Tokyo today, Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Japan's Minister for International Trade and Industry Shinji Sato announced that their respective ministries would collaborate to identify opportunities for joint private sector infrastructure and other projects in third countries.

"Today's joint announcement underlines the tremendous opportunities that exist for Canadian and Japanese firms to link their unique strengths to meet the needs of our developing neighbour countries, especially in the Asia Pacific region," said Mr. Eggleton.

Closer business partnerships will help address the significant infrastructure requirements of developing countries, particularly those in the Asia Pacific region, while offering commercial benefits to firms in both countries.

"It is one more example of the Canadian government's commitment to generating growth and creating employment," added Mr. Eggleton. "It will also help build business alliances across the Pacific in a way that will serve us well in the 21st century."

This initiative will complement discussions in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum on a framework to promote private sector investment in public infrastructure in APEC member economies. This collaboration will assist firms in Canada and Japan in securing project financing, from both private and public sources, to meet these major development needs.

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The text of the joint announcement is attached.



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Joint Announcement of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry of Japan (MITI) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada (DFAIT) on Facilitating Co-operation between Canadian and Japanese Companies in Third Country Markets

Shinji Sato, Minister for International Trade and Industry of Japan, and Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade of Canada, hereby announce their intention to take joint action to facilitate co-operation between Japanese and Canadian companies in third country markets.

The two ministries intend to:

- exchange information on private sector-led infrastructure and other projects in third country markets, including measures of both governments in support of such projects;
- promote the development of co-operative business partnerships between Canadian and Japanese firms, including joint studies, seminars and other initiatives on a country- or sector-specific basis; and
- consider support for private sector project initiatives through, for example, expanded co-operation in trade insurance between Canada's Export Development Corporation and MITI's Export Insurance Division.

MITI and DFAIT expect this co-operation to promote the development of long-term co-operative business relationships between Canadian and Japanese companies and to support the expansion of private sector investment in infrastructure and other projects.

Tokyo, November 27, 1996

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News Release

November 27, 1996

No. 221

CANADA'S ACTION PLAN FOR JAPAN: TARGETING NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGH GROWTH SECTORS

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today launched a new edition of Canada's Action Plan for Japan. The plan outlines specific activities to help expand trade, investment and technology ties between Canada and Japan.

"Japan is a very important market for Canada," said Mr. Eggleton. "Continued economic restructuring and deregulation has the potential to create countless new and diverse opportunities for Canadian businesses and their Japanese partners."

Canada's Action Plan for Japan provides a co-ordinated and business-led approach to expanding the Canada-Japan business relationship. This fourth edition of the Action Plan outlines a strategy to realize trade opportunities in seven of Japan's highest growth sectors: building products, fish and seafood products, processed food products, furniture, health care and medical devices, tourism and information technologies. The strategy emphasizes the importance of increased knowledge of the Japanese market and adapting products and services to meet Japanese requirements.

The Action Plan also outlines ways to encourage Japanese investment in Canada, especially in sectors in which Canada has demonstrated particular strengths of interest to potential investors, such as processed foods, information technologies, housing and building products.

The Action Plan also promotes technology-based partnerships, which play a key role in developing Canada-Japan trade through the successful adaptation of innovative technologies and processes in sectors such as telecommunications.

Japan is Canada's second-largest trading partner and its largest source of overseas tourism revenue. In 1995, two-way trade surpassed \$24 billion, and exports alone increased by 24 per cent to \$12 billion. Tourism generated a record \$661 million, an increase of 20 per cent over the previous year. Japan is also Canada's third most important source of foreign direct investment



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— \$12.5 billion in March 1996 — and the second largest portfolio investor — \$43.5 billion in March 1996.

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News Release

November 28, 1996

No. 222

CANADIAN BOOKS IN SPOTLIGHT AT MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN BOOK FAIR

The richness of Canadian culture and the export potential of Canadian products will be on display as Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart opens Latin America's largest book fair in Mexico on November 30.

The Guadalajara International Book Fair, which runs from November 30 to December 8, will bring together exhibitors from some 25 countries. Canada is this year's honoured guest nation, and will be given a prominent exhibition space to display the talents of its writers and publishers.

"The Guadalajara fair is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the scope of Canadian talent and forge deeper links with Latin American nations," said Mrs. Stewart. "The promotion of Canadian culture abroad is one of the pillars of Canadian foreign policy."

"Canada has a rich and diverse culture that has helped cement our national identity," said International Trade Minister Art Eggleton. "Events such as this let the world know what we have to offer."

Canada will be represented by 35 companies, mostly publishers of English and French books. Exhibitors are drawn from many regions of Canada, and include 24 English-language companies and 11 French-language ones (a list of Canadian exhibitors is attached).

Private sector participation is being organized by the Association for the Export of Canadian Books, and the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade are co-ordinating the various cultural activities. The governments of Alberta, Nova Scotia and Quebec are also funding cultural events. Québec Édition, which promotes the sales of Quebec books abroad, will organize and operate a book store at the event.

The fair's grand entrance space will feature the works of Canadian illustrators of youth literature, organized by the Canadian Children's Book Centre of Toronto.

In addition, more than a dozen Canadian authors will attend the fair, including P.K. Page, Matt Cohen, Linda Spalding, Louis Jolicoeur and Louis Hamelin. Performing artists will be represented by: Vic Vogel



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(jazz), One Yellow Rabbit (theatre), Dulcinea Langfelder (dance), the Headstones (rock) and Red Thunder (First Nation Plains dance group).

A national Mexican newspaper, *La Jornada*, will also publish a weekend supplement focussing on Canadian literature in translation, youth literature and the international success of Canadian books.

The fair, organized by the University of Guadalajara, has trade and public elements, and has become an influential venue for the promotion of books throughout Latin America.

Statistics Canada figures indicate that the value of Canadian book exports to Latin American doubled between 1992 and 1995 to \$2.3 million. Canadian publishers are making a concerted effort to expand exports beyond their two current largest destinations – the United States and Western Europe.

In addition to selling books, companies are boosting exports by selling foreign rights and forging co-publication and co-production agreements.

Prior to the book fair, Mrs. Stewart will inaugurate a round table meeting in Mexico City on November 27 and 28 aimed at fostering business links and co-operation between the Aboriginal communities of Canada and Mexico.

Mrs. Stewart will also inaugurate the new Canadian Consulate in Guadalajara on November 29. The Consulate has been established with the goal of increasing commercial relations between Canada and Western Mexico.

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A list of Canadian fair participants is attached.

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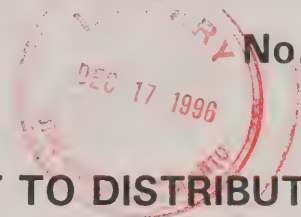
GUADALAJARA BOOK FAIR 1996

ANNICK PRESS
ÉDITIONS L'ARTICHAUT INC.
BLACK ROSE BOOKS LTD.
LES ÉDITIONS DU BORÉAL
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN PUBLISHING
DOUGLAS & McINTYRE LTD./GREYSTONE/GROUNDWOOD
DUVAL HOUSE PUBLISHING
GROUPE BEAUCHEMIN
GUY SAINT-JEAN ÉDITEUR INC.
KIDS CAN PRESS
ITMB PUBLISHING LTD.
LA COURTE ÉCHELLE
LEMÉAC ÉDITEUR
LONE PINE PUBLISHING
McGILL-QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY PRESS
MOAIC PRESS/INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS INC.
LES ÉDITIONS NOVALIS INC.
OWL BOOKS
PEMBROKE PUBLISHERS LTD.
PEMMICAN PUBLICATIONS INC.
PIPPIN PUBLISHING
QUARRY PRESS
LES ÉDITIONS QUÉBEC/AMÉRIQUE INC.
QUÉBECOR/GRAFICAS MONTE ALBAN
RAINCOAST BOOKS
REIDMORE BOOKS INC.
SCHOLASTIC CANADA LTD.
SELF-COUNSEL PRESS LTD.
STODDART PUBLISHING CO. LTD.
TRANSCONTINENTAL PRINTING INC.
LES ÉDITIONS TRIPTYQUE
ÉDITIONS ULYSSE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA PRESS
WHITECAP BOOKS
XYZ ÉDITEUR

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News Release

November 29, 1996



No. 223

EGGLETON WELCOMES AGREEMENT TO DISTRIBUTE CANADIAN SOFTWARE IN JAPAN

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton, today witnessed an agreement between Canadian software company AlterSys Inc. and Ebara Densan, a large Japanese corporation. The agreement is valued at \$10-15 million.

"This new software licensing agreement attests to Canada's strong capabilities in software development and in particular to the efforts of small and medium-sized companies, such as AlterSys, to chart out new terrain in markets like Japan's," said Mr. Eggleton. "It bodes well for continued impressive Canadian export growth to Japan in this sector."

Under the three-year exclusive agreement, Ebara Densan will be the sole distributor in Japan for AlterSys' "PCP Virgo" software, which is used in the automation and management of industrial processes in fields such as food processing, biochemical processing, mining, metal processing and electrical utilities. The agreement includes an option to extend sole distributorship for an additional two-year period.

AlterSys Inc. is based in Longueuil, Quebec, and has been in operation since 1988. It is a partly owned subsidiary of Nouveler/Hydro-Québec, a large corporation whose annual revenues exceed \$7.3 billion. AlterSys is active in 11 other foreign markets: Argentina, Brazil, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Russia, South Africa, Taiwan, and the United States.

Ebara Densan engineers and manufactures electrical and electronic equipment. The company employs about 500 people and posted approximately US\$220 million in annual revenues in 1994. Ebara Densan's parent company is Ebara Corporation, an engineering firm with expertise in a wide range of industrial processes and one of the world's two largest producers of industrial pumps.

Japan is the world's second largest software market and Canada's second largest trading partner. In 1995, two-way trade surpassed \$24 billion, and Canadian exports to Japan alone increased by



24 per cent to \$12 billion. Canadian software exports to Japan grew to about \$150 million in 1995, representing about 1 per cent of our total software exports and 5 per cent of Japan's software imports.

In 1995, Canada's information technology industry, including telecommunications, software, hardware, processing and services, generated revenues of \$54 billion. Total exports in this sector rose from \$7.5 billion in 1988 to \$19.5 billion in 1995.

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News Release

November 29, 1996

No. 224

VANCOUVER CHOSEN AS SITE OF JAPANESE SUMO TOURNAMENT



In Tokyo today, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan attended the formal announcement that Vancouver will host a Sumo wrestling exhibition tournament in June 1998. The announcement was made by Mr. Sho Sakaigawa, Chairman of the Japan Sumo Association, at a ceremony held at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo.

"This event will mark the first time that a tournament featuring this ancient and popular sport has been held in Canada," said Mr. Chan. "It is a prestigious honour as well as an extraordinary opportunity to focus Japanese attention on Canada, while giving Canadians an insight into Japanese traditions."

Previous exhibitions of the 2000-year old sport have been staged in major capitals and drawn enormous popular interest. Japan's Asahi TV network plans to broadcast the Vancouver 1998 exhibition tournament to viewers in Japan.

"Japanese television coverage of this event from Vancouver, and the enormous media interest that will be generated, will help promote Canada as a prime tourist destination," added Mr. Chan.

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News Release

November 29, 1996

No. 225

CANADIAN COMPANIES WIN BIG AT COMDEX, LAS VEGAS

International Trade Minister Art Eggleton today welcomed the success of Canadian information technology (IT) companies that participated in the COMDEX/Fall trade show in Las Vegas, Nevada, November 18-22.

"Canada's competitive edge in information technology is undeniable, and the economic growth potential, particularly through exports and international partnerships, is tremendous," said Mr. Eggleton. "Information technology is the backbone of the new economy and will continue its established trend as a major creator of new employment in Canada for years to come. Companies like those participating in COMDEX have learned how vital such events are to their growth and profitability."

More than 60 Canadian IT companies offering a variety of computer hardware and software products – many Internet-related – as well as supplies and furnishings, took part in this massive trade show featuring new products at 2 100 booths and attracting over 200 000 visitors daily, including a high proportion of senior decision makers.

The 16 companies in the Canada Pavilion negotiated reseller distributorships, joint ventures and strategic alliances and signed several multi-million dollar long- and short-term agreements. Among the successes, a first-time exhibitor, Scholars.com from Fredericton, New Brunswick, a leader in IT training, landed contracts that will double its revenues in the next year by an anticipated \$2 million in sales, and enable them to hire 10 new employees.

Canada's information technology and telecommunications industry generated \$54.6 billion in revenues in 1994, an increase of 10 per cent from 1993. The contribution to Canadian GDP by information technology and telecommunications industries was over \$30 billion in 1994, up from the 1993 level of \$27 billion. This sector included more than 15 000 firms in 1994 and employed about 300 000 people.

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A list detailing the achievements of a number of the Canadian companies participating at COMDEX is attached.



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Canadian Announcements at COMDEX, Las Vegas November 18 - 22, 1996

CANADIAN STAND EXHIBITORS

Televitesse Systems Inc. (Kanata, Ontario) used the COMDEX opportunity to introduce to the U.S. market their revolutionary intelligent television system – accesTV, PC software giving the power to select and manage what you see on television.

RES International Inc. (Ottawa, Ontario) introduced several of its products: RES Bazar, a Web-based purchasing system for public sector organizations or other buyers with multiple cost centres; and RES Cybermall Bazar, designed to provide buyers with the ability to show in a virtual mall and receive payment for selected items using secure technology to transfer credit card information and authorization to the merchants.

Lasermedia Inc. (Toronto, Ontario) is leading the health and fitness industry into the information age with "Active Trainer" and "Active Abs," a complete multimedia CD-ROM system for strength training.

Mediatrix Peripherals Inc. (Sherbrooke, Quebec) unveiled the Audiotrix Phone, a hardware-based computer telephony solution allowing high quality, full duplex conversations over a computer network, including the Internet.

Ooriane International (Montreal, Quebec) – Company President, Nica Reich, announced that Canada's Department of National Defence has selected Ooriane's Repository and Case Tool, to use to produce their own programs for management of human resources, distribution of information and data warehousing.

Scholars.com (Fredericton, New Brunswick) – a leader in IT training – landed contracts for a Windows NT Certification Guarantee program for the Microsoft On-Line Institute and established an agreement with Novell Corp. to provide on-line training on their behalf. As a result of the Novell arrangements, the company announced it would be hiring immediately six new instructors and that it anticipates \$2 million in revenues.

OTHER CANADIAN COMPANIES AT COMDEX

TechnoCafé – COMDEX was the venue for the launch of a creative collective of eleven Canadian companies in eight cities between Quebec City, Montreal and Ottawa who formed what may be the world's first virtual company. As part of the TechnoCafé, companies collaborate on marketing, R & D and business projects. Eight of the companies were at the TechnoCafé exhibit at COMDEX. Michael Ker, President and CEO of **Enterprise Planning Development** (Kanata, Ontario) explained: "This is a true Canadian virtual

corporation and we're breaking business barriers between Quebec and Ontario."

Ker received strong interest for his business from 20 distributors from across the world and expects another six to eight to sign distribution agreements within six months. "They're coming to us. We don't have to go to them." Ker expects that in one year this would generate between \$1-2 million in revenue.

Other TechnoCafé partners include **ShowbaseMedia Inc.**, (Aylmer, Quebec) who used COMDEX to introduce ShowBase Classic, a Windows-based tool that creates Web-ready databases from existing, popular database packages such as DBase, Access, Foxpro, Paradox, ACT, Excel, Lotus and Inmagic.

The company generated considerable interest at COMDEX, receiving recognition as a "hot product" from the trade show daily publication. "We've had discussions with four major players in the market," said Michael Desautels, President of ShowbaseMedia. Desautels signed two licensees that will carry a guaranteed 100 000 units of their products, which means \$300 000 for the 14-employee company. Each product licence offers the potential for upgrading to a more feature-rich version, generating additional revenue.

Caravell, (Nepean, Ontario) also launched a new product at COMDEX - Transceive, the Internet Transmitter and Receiver, which pushes information across the Internet to desktops of a targeted audience using an open channels model. Transceive is ideal for use as a Web brochure, Internet information agent and publisher's assistant, and doubles as a powerful personal productivity tool.

FlashSales, (Montreal, Quebec) introduced its e-Stationary, a high context e-mail system with facilities in five languages. "Our customers are Internet-Intranet users," said Richard Gather, President of FlashSales. "Right now there are 35 million people worldwide using e-mail, and expectations for 200 million by the year 2000. If we capture 5 per cent of that market, that could mean \$300 million annual revenue for our company!"

ZyTrax Communications Inc., (Saint-Laurent, Quebec) launched Turbo 600+ to add voice capability to its family of Personal ISDN routers that increase Internet speed to up to 10 times faster than 28.8K modems. "COMDEX is an opportunity to see if you have a competitive product and to measure yourself against the competition," says President, Eric Melka. "Some of the large U.S. telco companies are interested in business partnerships or distributor relationships."

Netcorp, (Montreal, Quebec) was also part of the TechnoCafé group and was able to bring its products to the attention of key

distributors from around the world. "We met high level decision makers here," said Eugene Gaines, Director of Sales, "and as a small firm, being part of the TechnoCafé allowed us to project a large-company profile."

GlobalMedic (Montreal, Quebec) – an Internet healthware company – offers an online health assistance product: anyone can enter the Web site and access a variety of health services based on an expert system. The company has positioned itself in both the information technology and healthcare sectors. Their product is marketed to Healthcare Management Organizations and group insurance companies in the United States.

Vanity Software (Toronto, Ontario) introduced new ergonomic software at its first-ever COMDEX. According to Tim Stanley, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Vanity Software received positive feedback on its two new entertainment products – Dilbert Break and Trivial Pursuit Break – designed to promote safety at the computer. "We met with four major retailers at COMDEX in the first two days and expect shelf placement in over 500 retail outlets in the U.S. by March 1997." Stanley estimates at least \$800 000 in revenue through the deals and hopes it could go as high as \$5 million.

Vanity also received two proposals for secure distribution of the products throughout Germany and France, including one from the largest distributor of ergonomic products in Europe. "The Europe deal will represent over \$1 million in revenue in the first 12 months," says Stanley. "We tripled our reseller network from 30 to 100 through our presence at COMDEX." Vanity uses software animators in the Toronto area, many of them graduates from Sheridan College.

Smart Technologies Inc. (Calgary, Alberta) introduced the SMART Board 720, the largest touch-sensitive screen currently available in interactive electronic whiteboards. The company generated about 500 sales leads each day during the five-day event.

Corel Corporation (Ottawa, Ontario) announced plans to join such companies as Oracle, Sun Microsystems and IBM in releasing a Network Computer (NC). The Corel Video NC will also ship with Corel Office for Java, Corel's new suite of office applications. Corel also launched VENTURA 7, a full-featured, high-end desktop publishing package offering multimedia capabilities, a new customized user interface and powerful document design tools.

Media Synergy (Toronto, Ontario) unveiled @aloha, a multimedia solution that allows users to attach animation, voice, graphics and music to e-mail messages.

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News Release

November 29, 1996

No. 226

AXWORTHY TO ATTEND EUROPEAN PEACE AND SECURITY TALKS IN LISBON AND LONDON

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will join Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, December 2-3, for the Lisbon Summit of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). He will then attend the December 4-5 meeting of the Peace Implementation Council dealing with Bosnia and Herzegovina, in London.

"Canada remains committed to the pursuit of lasting peace and security throughout Europe and beyond," said Mr. Axworthy. "I look forward to discussions in Lisbon on the evolving security structure in the region, including the future roles of the OSCE and NATO."

The London meeting of the Peace Implementation Council will approve an action plan for 1997 to assist further the rebuilding of post-conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina, concentrating on several social, political, economic and legal priorities. Mr. Axworthy attended the Paris meeting of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board on November 14.

"Canada supports the full implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement," Mr. Axworthy said. "We will continue to fulfil our commitment to securing democracy, the rule of law and civil society in Bosnia. This includes the effective prosecution of war criminals. There can be no reconciliation in Bosnia without justice."

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News Release

November 29, 1996

No. 227

CHAN TO VISIT BRUNEI TO PROMOTE TRADE AND INVESTMENT AND ENHANCED BILATERAL RELATIONS

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that he will visit Brunei from December 1 to 3 to promote closer bilateral ties and Canadian business opportunities. Mr. Chan will make the first official visit to Brunei since Canada opened its High Commission there in 1995.

"It is promising to see that since the opening of the Canadian High Commission trade between our two countries has increased significantly," said Mr. Chan. "Both the Canadian business delegation and I are seeking to create opportunities within this lucrative market."

Export figures for the first six months of 1996 increased to \$5.2 million, compared to \$1.4 million during the same period in 1995.

Mr. Chan will be accompanied by a business delegation comprising the following companies: SNC Lavalin, Kilborn Engineering, Bombardier, Canora, Ashley-Robinson and Brodie, CAE Electronics, Survival Systems, and London Life International. Mr. Chan will participate in discussions between Canadian and Bruneian business leaders.

Mr. Chan will also meet with the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pehin Zakaria, and preside over the official opening of the newly established Canadian High Commission. He will also inform Pehin Zakaria of Canada's plans to celebrate Canada's Year of Asia Pacific in 1997, which is aimed at increasing greater awareness in Canada about Asia Pacific.

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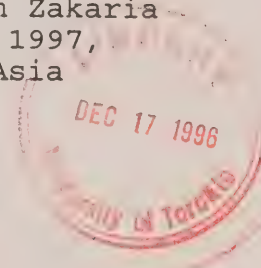
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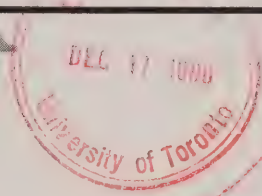


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News Release

December 2, 1996

No. 228



EGGLETON LAUNCHES INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS/CAPITAL PROJECTS INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today launched the International Financial Institutions (IFI)/Capital Projects Information System developed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Projects financed by the multilateral development banks represent significant opportunities for Canadian businesses. Canadian companies are eligible to bid on over \$12 billion worth of contracts open to foreign suppliers annually. The IFI/Capital Projects Information System will provide Canadian exporters with timely and accurate information on these opportunities and improve their chances of success.

"The IFI/Capital Projects Information System is making it easier for Canadian companies to tap into these lucrative IFI-funded projects in the international marketplace," said Mr. Eggleton. "This new information system is a true reflection of the Team Canada partnership between governments and the private sector."

"With 40 per cent of our GDP and one in three jobs dependent on international trade, it is clear that exports are critical to our economy. Canadian companies' successes abroad translate into more jobs and increased economic growth for all Canadians," said Mr. Eggleton.

The IFI/Capital Projects Information System is a tangible response to the recommendations of an Interdepartmental Task Force on International Financial Institutions Procurement. These recommendations called for the development of a mechanism to help Canadian businesses compete for IFI-financed projects.

The system captures, integrates and disseminates IFI project information. Contact information is available on agencies implementing projects in borrowing countries. Key contacts in Canadian missions and IFI field offices abroad are also available.



The system currently provides access to project information from the following institutions:

- the World Bank;
- the Inter-American Development Bank;
- the African Development Bank;
- the International Finance Corporation;
- the United Nations Development Program; and
- the Asian Development Bank

Canadian companies may obtain more information on the IFI Capital Projects Information System by contacting the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> under the international business development category.

- 30 -

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News Release

December 2, 1996

No. 229

MINISTERS WELCOME NAFTA PANEL DECISION

Minister for International Trade Art Eggleton and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Ralph Goodale today welcomed the unanimous decision by an international panel upholding Canada's right to apply tariffs established under the World Trade Organization (WTO) to imports of certain U.S. agricultural products.

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) panel has determined that Canadian tariffs conform fully with the provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The United States had challenged Canada's right under the NAFTA to apply the tariffs that were agreed to in the WTO Agreements on imports of U.S. dairy, poultry, egg, margarine and barley products. Canada maintained that this was consistent with its obligations under the NAFTA and the WTO.

"The government is very pleased with this decisive and unanimous ruling made by the five panel members," said Mr. Eggleton. "This case underlines the value of the NAFTA panel process where disputes can be settled on their merits."

"The panel finding is great news for Canada and the country's entire agriculture industry," said Mr. Goodale. "The close collaboration between federal and provincial governments and agriculture industry groups was key to the successful Canadian effort."

Under the WTO Agreement, Canada converted its former quantitative import restrictions on products such as dairy, poultry and eggs to tariff equivalents.

In its ruling, the panel agreed that provisions in the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement allowed Canada to maintain quantitative import restrictions against certain U.S. imports. It also concluded that Canada was obliged to end its quantitative import restrictions under the WTO Agreement and that Canada had the right to convert them into tariff equivalents under the WTO and the NAFTA.



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The United States officially requested a NAFTA panel on July 17, 1995, beginning the panel process.

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A backgrounder is attached.

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Backgrounder

The Canadian Position

- As required by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement, which entered into force on January 1, 1995, Canada has converted all quantitative import restrictions on agricultural products, including those in the supply-managed dairy and poultry sectors, into tariff equivalents. This multilaterally negotiated process, known as "tariffication," has also been implemented by the United States and applied to U.S. imports of Canadian products such as sugar, sugar-containing products, dairy products and peanut butter.
- The tariffication process as implemented by Canada has not reduced U.S. access to the Canadian market. The tariff equivalents apply only to imports above specified levels. In the case of products subject to tariffication by Canada, this import level is equal to or greater than the previous quotas.
- The history of the negotiations between Canada and the United States is clear and it is reflected in the provisions of the agreements. The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) embodied an understanding that improved U.S. access into Canada for certain supply-managed products but maintained fully Canada's right to apply border measures in support of supply management. This agreement was incorporated into the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with no further changes in market access. Both parties agreed subsequently in the WTO to convert agricultural import quotas into tariff equivalents that would apply to one another's exports.

World Trade Organization Tariffication

- The World Trade Organization Agreement on Agriculture, which came into effect on January 1, 1995, required all WTO members, including Canada and the United States, to convert their non-tariff quantitative import restrictions, such as quotas and discretionary licensing requirements, to tariffs. This process, known as "tariffication," was intended to provide the equivalent effect of the restrictions that were replaced.
- As part of its WTO commitments, Canada tariffied its import quotas on supply-managed dairy, poultry and egg products. In addition, Canada tariffied its import licences on barley and barley products, as well as its import prohibition on margarine. It was clear that these tariff equivalents would apply to all imports of these products, including those from the United States.

- For its part, the United States tariffed its import restrictions on dairy, sugar, sugar-containing products, peanuts, peanut butter and peanut paste, and cotton. The United States has applied its tariff equivalents on these products to imports from Canada.
- For each "tariffed" product, WTO members were required to provide access at lower tariff rates for imports up to specified levels. Only imports in excess of the specified limit would be subject to the higher tariff equivalents. The access up to the specified limit is known as in-quota access, and that over the limit as over-quota access. This import system is referred to as a tariff rate quota (TRQ).
- Under the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, members will reduce tariffs on agricultural goods by 36 per cent over six years with a minimum reduction of 15 per cent for each tariff line. United States agriculture products entering Canada within the TRQ are subject to low rates of duty, ranging from 0 to 6 per cent, which will be eliminated by 1998 as part of Canada's obligations under the FTA and the NAFTA.
- Canada's tariff equivalents on over-quota access range from 25 per cent to 350 per cent, and apply to imports from all countries, including the United States.

The Supply Management System

- Supply management in Canada is a system that manages the national supply of dairy products, chicken, turkey, eggs and broiler hatching eggs by matching total supply with domestic demand. The effectiveness of the system is dependent on import controls.
- The system benefits the sectors concerned by focussing on the needs of the domestic market, avoiding surpluses through a balancing of supplies with expected domestic market needs, progressive gains in productivity, increased specialization in production and processing and relatively stable producer returns. The system also provides consumers with a stable and reliable supply of high-quality products.
- Supply-managed commodities represent major sectors of Canada's farm economy, accounting for about 25 per cent (\$6.4 billion) of total farm cash receipts. In 1995, the numbers of regulated producers were: chicken, 2797; turkey, 568; eggs, 1387; and broiler hatching eggs, 319. There were about 24 700 dairy farms reporting sales in 1995-96.

Canada-U.S. Trade in Dairy, Poultry and Eggs

- Trade in dairy, poultry and eggs between Canada and the United States in 1995 totalled \$444.6 million. The United States had a trade surplus of \$265.2 million for bilateral trade in these products, and exports from the U.S. accounted for 80 per cent of the value of the two-way trade.
- The United States exported \$56 million in dairy products to Canada in 1995, an increase of 141 per cent over U.S. dairy product exports in 1988.
- The United States exported \$298.5 million in poultry and egg products to Canada in 1995, an increase of 120 per cent over the 1988 level.
- Canada exported \$38 million in dairy products to the United States in 1995, and \$51 million in poultry and egg products. These values represent increases of 57 per cent and 63 per cent respectively over 1988 export levels.

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News Release

December 3, 1996

No. 230

EGGLETON TO ATTEND WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will attend the first ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Singapore to discuss key world trade issues.

The December 9-13 meeting of the 125-member organization will review how member countries are carrying out their trade commitments and look at the WTO's ongoing and future work program. At Singapore, the ministers – the WTO's "board of directors" – will give political guidance to the organization.

"The Singapore conference is an opportunity to consolidate our gains in liberalizing world trade and to chart the path for the future," said Mr. Eggleton. "As ministers, we must show the political will to forge ahead with the job of opening up markets under effective trade rules."

The conference will consider reports by 30 WTO working groups and committees covering all issues on the WTO agenda. Ministers will review proposed work in these groups under the so-called "built-in agenda" of the WTO – commitments contained in the WTO agreements for review and further negotiation. Key commitments are to resume negotiations in agriculture by 1999 and in services by 2000. They will also discuss work under way on trade and the environment. They will consider what needs to be done to complete the ongoing negotiations in the telecommunications and financial services sectors. As well, ministers will consider a proposed information technology agreement, an initiative to remove tariffs on technology products.

Ministers will also discuss a Canadian-led proposal for work on trade and investment; a Canadian proposal for a conference on technical assistance to improve the integration of the least developed countries into the global trading system; and a range of other matters. As well, they are expected to discuss the linkages between trade and labour standards.



"Canada played a major role in creating the WTO," said Mr. Eggleton. "The WTO is key to a smoothly functioning world trading system. That is vital to Canadians because international trade is the lifeblood of our economy. More than one in three jobs depend on international trade."

Additional background information on the conference is available by telephoning the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade at (613) 995-1874 or by accessing the Department's World Trade Organization section at its Internet site: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/english/whatsnew/menu.htm under "Trade General".

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News Release

December 3, 1996

No. 231

CANADIAN COMPANIES FORGE NEW LINKS AT CANADA EXPO '96 AS EGGLETON SIGNS CANADA-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The quality and expertise of Canadian companies will be on display this week as International Trade Minister Art Eggleton and some 170 Canadian businesses attend Canada Expo '96 in Santiago, Chile, the home of Canada's newest free trade partner. Seven provinces and many Team Canada companies will also attend the fair.

While in Chile, Mr. Eggleton will also sign the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement. On November 18, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Chilean President Eduardo Frei signed an understanding to finalize the text and implement the agreement.

"Canada Expo '96 is the perfect event to launch a new era of partnership between Canada and Chile," said Mr. Eggleton. "Now is the time for Canadian companies to consolidate their position in the Chilean market and to prepare for the advantages that the Free Trade Agreement will bring. I am confident that this show will result in significant new business activity between our nations."

The December 4-6 event will bring together influential Chilean decision makers and Canadian companies representing a variety of sectors, including: construction products, advanced technologies, agri-food, plastics, automotive parts, industrial machinery, environmental equipment and services, health care, education and many others.

Mr. Eggleton will make a keynote address to about 1 000 guests at the event's opening ceremonies at the Casa Piedra in Santiago on December 4 at 11:00 a.m. He will later meet with key Chilean ministers.



Patterned on the highly successful Canada Expo '94 in Mexico City, Canada Expo '96 will allow Canadian business people to contact potential clients, assess market demands for their products or services, and appoint local agents or distributors. More than 330 business people from all provinces will attend the event.

Chile has the most stable and fastest-growing economy in its region. Over the last decade, annual economic growth has averaged almost 7 per cent.

Market-oriented policies have encouraged an entrepreneurial spirit and a strong private sector. With low unemployment, falling inflation and rising wages, Chile has established its credentials as a desirable trade and investment partner. Many companies are finding that Chile is an excellent gateway to the expanding markets of Latin America.

Chile's market liberalization and economic stabilization programs have already led to a significant increase in the volume of Canadian business with that country. Total two-way Canada-Chile trade has doubled since 1991, with shipments totalling \$666 million in 1995, up 20 per cent from the 1994 total of \$553 million. Canadian exports to Chile increased 47 per cent from 1993 to 1994, and a further 23 per cent to \$387 million in 1995.

The Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement will result in immediate duty-free access for most industrial goods, which account for 80 per cent of Canadian exports, and the elimination of Chile's 11 per cent import duty on almost all remaining industrial and resource-based goods over five years. Canadian exporters' overall access to Chilean markets will now be better than that of their competitors in the United States, the European Union, Argentina and Brazil.

Corporate sponsors are helping to fund both the event and technical seminars that will demonstrate the expertise of Canadian companies. Sponsors include: Nova Corporation, Newbridge Networks, Canadian Airlines, Methanex, Gildemeister (Finning), Seagrams, Nortel, Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto Dominion Bank and SNC Lavalin.

Canada and Chile hope to implement the Free Trade Agreement in June 1997.

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A media kit is available through the Department's Web site at:
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**VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE ART EGGLETON
TO CANADA EXPO '96, SANTIAGO, CHILE**

DECEMBER 4-5, 1996

PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 4, 1996

10:30 a.m.	Bilateral meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister José Miguel Insulza
11:00 a.m.	Canada Expo '96, Official Opening ceremonies and speech, Casa Piedra
12:00 p.m.	Walk-about to review show and meet with companies
1:00 p.m.	Round Table meeting with Trade Commissioners Media interviews

Thursday, December 5, 1996

8:35 a.m.	Bilateral meeting with Finance Minister Eduardo Aninat
9:00 a.m.	Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement signing ceremony, Casa Piedra
9:50 a.m.	News conference

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News Release

December 3, 1996

No. 232

AXWORTHY URGES YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES TO SHOW RESTRAINT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, currently travelling in Europe, today expressed deep concern over developments in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), and urged the Yugoslav authorities to show restraint.

"Canada has followed closely the protests and demonstrations in the FRY since the government's decision to annul the results of the second round of local elections," Mr. Axworthy said. "We are concerned that the government of the FRY has chosen to ignore accepted international norms for conducting democratic elections and that opposition candidates in major cities have been deprived of their rightful places on local councils. Canada's Ambassador in Belgrade has conveyed our concerns to the government of the FRY. The Ambassador warned the government that failure to adhere to internationally accepted democratic standards would have a negative effect on the normalization of relations between Canada and the FRY."

Mr. Axworthy noted that the demonstrations in Serbia have taken place in a relatively peaceful fashion. However, he expressed concern over Sunday's announcement by the President of the FRY Federal Parliament, Dragan Tomic, implying the possible use of force in dealing with peaceful demonstrations. The decision today by the FRY to close down a key independent radio station in Belgrade is a further regressive step, he said.

Failure of the FRY to respect the democratic process fully, and in all instances, could have an impact on the pace and content of the normalization of its relations with others, Mr. Axworthy said. "I intend to discuss the evolving situation with colleagues participating at the Peace Implementation Conference in London."

- 30 -

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News Release

December 4, 1996

No. 233

CANADA ANNOUNCES CONTRIBUTION TO FOLLOW-ON FORCE FOR BOSNIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of National Defence Douglas Young today announced Canada's contribution to a follow-on force of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)-led Peace Implementation Force (IFOR) in Bosnia.

A 1000-member Canadian Forces contingent is currently serving in IFOR. Canada has offered to contribute approximately 1200 troops to the proposed follow-on force.

The changing size and role of the international military presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina mean that the contribution Canada will make will also change. The composition of the new Canadian contingent reflects the different role that Canada expects to undertake in the force, including assuming more front-line responsibilities and a larger area of operations. The larger troop contribution will ensure better protection and strengthen the Canadian Forces' ability to safely and effectively carry out their duties, particularly those in support of civilian reconstruction efforts.

"Canada's involvement in NATO activities in Bosnia has been successful. We have helped to separate the warring factions and to provide a stable environment for national elections," said Mr. Axworthy. "Nevertheless, more work must be done before a durable peace can take hold. In particular, our continued commitment will allow us to advance peacebuilding activities, such as the repatriation and reintegration of refugees, and put in place tools to assist in the arrest of war criminals."

"Canadian Forces personnel have served in the former Yugoslavia since 1991," said Minister Young. "Canada's commitment to achieving a lasting peace in the Balkans remains strong."

The Ministers' announcement followed Mr. Axworthy's appearance before the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade on November 26. The Standing Committee, in a unanimous resolution passed on November 28, agreed to an



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extension of Canada's involvement in the follow-on IFOR, under the appropriate United Nations Security Council mandate.

Minister Axworthy will discuss Canada's contribution to the follow-on IFOR, and other peace and security issues, at the North Atlantic Council meeting in Brussels, December 10-11. Minister Young will meet with his NATO colleagues in Brussels December 17-18.

- 30 -

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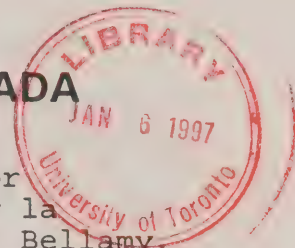
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News Release

December 4, 1996

No. 234

UNICEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO VISIT CANADA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Don Boudria announced today that Ms. Carol Bellamy, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will visit Canada from December 4 to 7, 1996.

"UNICEF plays a vital role in protecting the interests of children worldwide and is a primary vehicle for Canada in meeting our own international commitments to the rights and welfare of children. Canada has taken concrete measures against the commercial sexual exploitation of children and child labour, and I am looking forward to continuing discussions on these and other issues with Ms. Bellamy," said Minister Axworthy.

"UNICEF is a key partner in our efforts to meet basic human needs and protect the rights of children and women in developing countries," Mr Boudria said. "As part of the overall UN reform process, Ms. Bellamy has shown strong leadership in promoting changes within UNICEF to maximize the impact of its programs and its global advocacy for children."

While in Ottawa on December 5 and 6, Ms. Bellamy will meet with Mr. Axworthy, Mr. Boudria and Minister of Health David Dingwall. She will also appear before the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade and meet with Senator Landon Pearson, Mr. Axworthy's special advisor on children's issues.

On December 7, Ms. Bellamy will deliver a keynote address to the Canadian National Immunization Conference in Toronto.

Ms. Bellamy became Executive Director of UNICEF in May 1995 following a distinguished career in law and finance. She is spearheading a comprehensive restructuring initiative to ensure UNICEF's work for children continues in the most effective and cost-efficient way possible. These changes are improving UNICEF's ability to help developing countries reach the goals set at the 1990 World Summit for Children, such as improved health care, education and protection from neglect, abuse and want.



Canada has been a major financial supporter of UNICEF since it was created in 1946. In 1995-96, it provided almost \$60 million to UNICEF for projects to improve children's access to primary health care, promote education for girls and deliver emergency relief to child victims of conflict or disaster.

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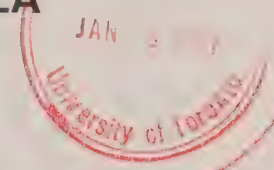
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News Release

December 4, 1996

No. 235

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER OF GUATEMALA TO VISIT CANADA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Eduardo Stein, Foreign Affairs Minister of Guatemala, will pay a working visit to Ottawa on December 5 and 6.

"I look forward to Mr. Stein's visit so that we can strengthen our bilateral ties and continue our discussions on developments in the Guatemalan peace process," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada's main objective in support of the peace accords is to assist Guatemala in making a peaceful transition to an open society in which human rights are respected and the Government of Guatemala is better able to satisfy the needs of its citizens through equitable development."

Mr. Stein will hold bilateral meetings with Minister Axworthy, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Don Boudria and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart to discuss the latest developments in the Guatemalan peace process and how the international community can support it.

"CIDA's programming in Guatemala complements the plans for implementing the peace agreements and focusses on poverty alleviation, democratic development and human rights," said Mr. Boudria.

"A significant aim of Canada's program in Guatemala is to strengthen civil society, indigenous groups and grass-roots communities," said Mrs. Stewart. "Guatemala can only make progress if its people have the capacity to do so. Canadian non-governmental organizations have done outstanding work in this area," she added.

Mr. Stein's visit follows a trip to Guatemala by Mr. Axworthy and Mrs. Stewart on September 12 to discuss the plan by the



Government of Guatemala and the National Revolutionary Unity of Guatemala to sign a Peace Accord on December 29, 1996.

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News Release

December 5, 1996

No. 236

AXWORTHY TO ATTEND NATO MEETINGS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will be attending two North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)-related meetings in Brussels next week. The first will be a regular Ministerial session of the North Atlantic Council (NAC), which is composed of the 16 NATO members, on December 10. This will be followed on December 11 by a meeting of the North Atlantic Co-operation Council (NACC), which the Minister will attend along with representatives of all 38 member countries, including delegates from Central and Eastern Europe including the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

"We must deal with a number of important political issues at NAC and NACC, including the replacement of the NATO-led Peace Implementation Force (IFOR) with a follow-on force, NATO enlargement and an enhanced Partnership for Peace," said Mr. Axworthy. "I also want to discuss with my counterparts the issue of bringing indicted war criminals in the former Yugoslavia to justice."

In addition to those issues identified by the Minister, the NAC is expected to discuss NATO relations with Russia and Ukraine, preparations for a 1997 Summit of Alliance leaders, and the adaptation of Alliance structures and procedures.

Following the NATO meetings, Minister Axworthy will proceed to Paris to attend an event for the Bureau International des Expositions. The event is being hosted by the Canada 2005 Exposition Corporation, which is sponsoring Calgary's bid to host Expo 2005.

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News Release

SECRET
Publication

December 6, 1996

JAN 6 1997
University of Toronto

No. 238

AXWORTHY CALLS FOR A CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION STRATEGY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today called for a national partnership to build a Canadian International Information Strategy (CIIS) as a central element in the conduct of Canada's international relations. He was speaking to members of the foreign policy community and the communications and informatics industries in Ottawa. The event was presented by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and its co-sponsors: the Canadian Advanced Technology Association, the Information Technology Association of Canada, Carleton University's Norman Patterson School of International Affairs, and the Ottawa-Carleton Board of Trade.

"Globalization, the information revolution, the end of the Cold War and the democratization of international relations are bringing about a fundamental change in how the world works," said Mr. Axworthy. "The strategic use of information, and the ability to influence others by presenting models and ideas, have become central components of a nation's ability to exert political, economic or cultural influence."

"The strategic use of information has become a key element of foreign policy; our foreign policy and programs must reflect this," said Mr. Axworthy. "We need to consider ways to put new technologies and Canadian expertise to the service of our country abroad, and to promote Canada and what it stands for in the world."

Mr. Axworthy emphasized the need to reconsider how Canada presents itself to the outside world in the information age, and how new information technologies can be used as a tool to achieve foreign-policy goals. The Minister gave several examples of Canadian initiatives that are already using the full range of communications technologies to reach out to the world in the fields of education, development assistance, human rights and the cultural industry.

Mr. Axworthy stressed that a successful international information strategy would depend on partnerships and consultation involving government, the private sector and non-governmental



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organizations. Representatives of development and social justice groups, labour and business have already participated in preliminary discussions on the development of an international information strategy. Two of the four regional forums leading up to the National Forum on Foreign Policy on December 13 have been focussed on the theme of the Canadian international information strategy.

These consultations highlighted the importance of building on existing activities in government and the private sector, and the need for government to take the lead in certain areas, including articulating the principle themes and messages that Canada should be communicating to international audiences – themes such as democracy, respect for human rights and tolerance.

"Encouraged by this response, we see a need for the development of a Canadian International Information Strategy," Mr. Axworthy said. "We need a strategy that puts our assets to work to address the international and domestic challenges of the information age. A strategy that allows us to reach foreign markets more effectively and influence international audiences. A strategy that puts new information technology to work for Canada as it pursues its internationalist vocation, and as it seeks to advance our interests and values internationally. A strategy that provides a sharp national focus and that is horizontally integrated across both government and the private sector."

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News Release

December 9, 1996

No. 239

CANADIANS INVITED TO SHARE VIEWS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH DFAIT'S NEW WEB SITE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) has launched a new Internet Web site designed to solicit feedback for the preparation of its new strategy for sustainable development.

"Sustainable development is a cornerstone of Canadian foreign policy," said Mr. Axworthy. "Through conflict prevention, trade negotiations and global environmental leadership, Canada is working toward a world that is more secure, more prosperous and more sustainable. In addition to seeking the views of parliamentarians and the non-governmental sector, we want Canadians to share their thoughts, ideas and concerns on this matter."

Sustainable development will be integrated into all aspects of DFAIT's operations and decision-making practices, requiring a careful balancing of economic, social and environmental goals in the development of policy.

In addition to establishing departmental priorities and drafting a discussion paper, DFAIT has launched a process of public consultation. The Web site has been set up to inform Canadians on the progress of the sustainable development strategy and to invite their views. Canadians can direct their comments to the Department's Co-ordinator for Environmental Assessment and Stewardship through the site's comments section, entitled "Talk Back." Input from the public will be reviewed and taken into account in the development of policy.

Information on sustainable development and Canadian foreign policy can be found on the Sustainable Development home page, which includes sections on "Economic Development," "Social Development" and "Environmental Protection" and has links to over 30 related sites. Access is available through the following address:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/english/sustain/index.htm>

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News Release

December 10, 1996

No. 240

AXWORTHY TO HOST NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will meet with Canadians to discuss Canada's role in peacebuilding and international communications as he hosts the third annual National Forum on Canada's International Relations, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Friday, December 13, 1996. This session follows five regional meetings on the same themes held this autumn from coast to coast.

"In the first five sessions, Canadians across the country seriously addressed the issues concerning our involvement worldwide and our contributions to peacekeeping missions and they have generated some new ideas and policy recommendations," said Mr. Axworthy. "As Canada faces challenges in peacekeeping and peacebuilding, as well as in international communications, it is more important than ever for Canadians to contribute to our thinking about crises, peacebuilding and communicating Canada's values abroad."

Mr. Axworthy will speak at the luncheon while opening remarks on communications will be presented by well-known Canadian broadcaster and commentator, Ann Medina, and Canada's Ambassador to Cuba, Mark Entwistle, will address the issues of peacebuilding. Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan will join the discussions along with senior officials including Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Assistant Deputy Minister Lucie Edwards and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Vice-President John Robinson.

Over 500 Canadians – including youth, academics, community leaders and representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), business and labour – participated in the regional meetings held in Halifax, Victoria, Edmonton, Toronto, and Quebec City in October and November this year.

More than 100 Canadians are expected to participate in the wrap-up session to be held at the Hotel Fort Garry. In addition to Winnipeg area citizens interested in foreign policy issues, participants will include representatives from each of the other five forum meetings and policy officials from the DFAIT and CIDA.



In keeping with the main themes of peacebuilding and international communications, discussions in the final session are expected to centre on promoting Canadian values including Human Rights, the role of NGOs in peacebuilding, and specific suggestions for Canadian initiatives.

The Winnipeg session of the National Forum is being co-ordinated by a local Winnipeg Organizing Committee (Chair: Jim Fergusson, University of Manitoba) with the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development. It is being funded by DFAIT and CIDA.

The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development was established in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade earlier this year by Mr. Axworthy to help Canadians participate in foreign policy making. In addition to assisting with preparations for all the sessions of the National Forum, the Centre manages public consultation, research and other John Holmes Fund projects.

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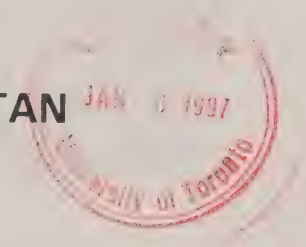
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News Release

December 11, 1996

No. 241

EGGLETON MEETS WITH SIR LEON BRITTAN TO DISCUSS FUR REGULATION



The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, met today in Singapore with Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission (EC), to discuss the status of the European Union (EU) fur regulation and present the concerns of the Canadian fur industry.

"I am pleased with the outcome of our meeting," said Mr. Eggleton. "Sir Leon Brittan has assured me of his continued support on this issue and clearly stated that a European Union-wide ban would not come into effect on January 1, 1997. Canada was very disappointed with the position taken by a number of European environment ministers when they met earlier this week," added the Minister.

During the meeting of EU environment ministers, some ministers opposed the International Agreement on Humane Trapping Standards, which Canada had initialled on December 6. The agreement would establish trapping standards and ensure the humane treatment of fur-bearing animals in all countries party to the agreement, including those of the EU – which unlike Canada are not taking any independent steps to establish trapping standards of their own.

The EU was to take measures to implement an import ban on January 1, 1997, applying to the furs of 13 species, some of which are taken with certain forms of leghold traps. On the basis of this agreement, Sir Leon confirmed that the ban would not take effect January 1, 1997.

The fur industry in Canada employs up to 100 000 people, including approximately 80 000 trappers of whom close to half are Aboriginal people, and generates up to \$600 million worth of economic activity annually.



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News Release

December 12, 1996

No. 242

BOUDRIA TO PARTICIPATE IN EIGHTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF LA FRANCOPHONIE IN MARRAKECH

The Honourable Don Boudria, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, will visit Marrakech on December 17 and 18 to take part in the eighth Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie, a midway review between two summits.

Talks at the Conference will focus on five main areas. To begin with, an initial balance-sheet will be prepared outlining Cotonou Summit follow-up activities, such as the installation of 10 server centres providing Internet access to 10 developing countries in la Francophonie and the creation of a network of legal aid and consultation centres for women in la Francophonie member countries.

Second, attention will be focussed on the precarious situation in West Africa's Great Lakes region, a problem that directly concerns la Francophonie.

Third, Conference participants will attempt to reach an agreement on reforming the institutions of la Francophonie. The main issue is to define both the role and powers of the new Secretary General of la Francophonie, who will be appointed in Hanoi, and the place of the Agence de coopération culturelle et technique (ACCT) among the other Francophone institutions.

Fourth, Mr. Boudria will announce to the member countries of the Francophone community, Moncton, New Brunswick's candidacy to host the 1999 Summit. "Canada believes that 12 years after the Quebec City Summit, after two summits in Europe, two in Africa and two in Asia-Pacific, it is time for us to hold a second summit in America," said the Minister.

Finally, Conference participants will set the guidelines for the next summit, scheduled for mid-November 1997 in Hanoi. Canada would like the Hanoi Summit to concentrate on the information highway in la Francophonie, on following through with those projects initiated at the Cotonou Summit that are likely to be supported by other partners, and on economic development - a



theme proposed by Vietnam and by many other countries of la Francophonie. "We want Hanoi's success to be ours, and we will support the Vietnamese authorities in the search for economic development projects, despite the limited resources available to la Francophonie," said Mr. Boudria.

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News Release

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December 12, 1996

No. 243

RCI TO BE PART OF NEW INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION STRATEGY

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Canadian Heritage Sheila Copps and Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that government funding has been identified to allow for the continued operation of Radio Canada International (RCI).

Without government funding, RCI would have ceased operations March 31, 1997, following a decision by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to terminate financing of Canada's international radio broadcaster.

"RCI has been an important asset for Canada," said Mr. Axworthy. "It would have been a great loss to see it disappear at the very moment we are undertaking the development of the Canadian International Information Strategy to plan how we can best use new technologies to deliver our messages, transmit our values and support both our trade and development assistance programs abroad."

"Often the best sense of who we are as Canadians comes from the impressions of people who live outside our country," said Ms. Copps. "Radio Canada International projects the best of Canada and its ideals around the world. I am proud that we have been able to save RCI."

"The new funding arrangement for RCI will help us deal with the immediate future while we work on the broader framework," Mr. Axworthy noted. "I am convinced that RCI can evolve in such a way as to keep it an important instrument in the new information strategy."

Funding for this initiative is from within the existing fiscal framework.

This one-year funding arrangement takes effect April 1. RCI's \$16-million budget will be covered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the Department of Canadian Heritage (DCH), which will each contribute up to \$6 million. The balance will come from the Canadian



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International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Department of National Defence (DND).

For the current fiscal year, half of RCI's \$16-million budget is provided by the CBC, with the balance coming from CIDA, DFAIT, DCH and DND.

RCI broadcasts to Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, the United States, Asia and the Caribbean. It reaches audiences through shortwave and satellite, and by partnership agreements with local broadcasters. It is also available on the Internet. In addition to English and French, RCI broadcasts in five foreign languages: Arabic, Mandarin, Ukrainian, Spanish and Russian.

The Canadian International Information Strategy is a government-wide approach being developed under the leadership of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in conjunction with the private sector to convey Canada's messages abroad. Using modern technologies, including satellite transmission and electronic networks, the strategy aims to establish a permanent, technically sophisticated and cost-effective presence that will carry Canada's messages to the world well into the 21st century.

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News Release

December 13, 1996

No. 244

EGGLETON TO VISIT CHINA

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, will visit China to meet with Chinese government ministers and senior officials to promote trade and investment opportunities, from December 16 to 17. A delegation of 32 Canadian business representatives will accompany Mr. Eggleton on this visit.

"I welcome this opportunity to discuss with China's leadership, most notably with my Chinese counterpart, Madame Wu Yi, ways to enhance trade between our two countries," said Mr. Eggleton. "Like the Team Canada missions to the region and Prime Minister Chrétien's visit to China last month, this visit will be a concerted effort to support Canadian business in China."

Mr. Eggleton will have his first official bilateral meeting with the Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation, Wu Yi, on December 16.

During his visit Mr. Eggleton will hold a series of meetings with senior business and political leaders, including the Chairman of the State Planning Commission, the Minister of Electric Power, the Minister of Communications, the Vice-Minister of Internal Trade and a leading member of China's State Council.

While in Beijing, Mr. Eggleton will officially open the Canada-China Wing of the National Museum of Chinese History, which will feature 2000 Tang dynasty cultural treasures that have been restored using Canadian heritage conservation techniques.

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A list of the companies accompanying Mr. Eggleton is attached.

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**DECEMBER 1996 VISIT TO BEIJING BY
THE HONOURABLE ART EGGLETON
MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

Business Delegation

Agra Industries

Mississauga, Ontario
Bob Van Adel
Vice President, Development
and Project Finance

Asia Minerals

Vancouver, British Columbia
David C. Owens
President

**Atomic Energy of Canada
Limited**

Mississauga, Ontario
David Bock
Vice President

Bank of Montreal

Toronto, Ontario
Neil Tait
Senior Vice President,
Asian Banking

Barrick Gold

Toronto, Ontario
John Goode
President and Chief
Representative, Barrick Power
Gold Corporation of China Ltd.
Evelyn King
Manager, Business Development

**Bombardier Transportation
Group**

Montreal, Quebec
Hubert Pelletier
Vice President, Bombardier
Transportation Group
Jianwei Zhang
Bombardier Transportation
Group

Bombardier Aerospace

Montreal, Quebec
Kim Chan
General Manager, Bombardier
Inc. China Representative
Office

Canada China Business Council

Toronto, Ontario
Rob McDowell
General Manager, China

Canada China Power Inc.

Montreal, Quebec
George Fotinakis
Chief Executive Officer

Canadian Wheat Board

Winnipeg, Manitoba
Haiguang Shi
General Manager, Beijing
Office

Canpotex

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Howard Cummer
Managing Director, Canpotex
(Hong Kong) Ltd.

Export Development Corporation

Ottawa, Ontario
Don Curtis
Vice President, Market
Management
Mark Bolger
Regional Manager, Asia Pacific

GE Canada

Mississauga, Ontario
Bob Weese
Vice President, Government and
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GEC Alsthom Energy

Tracy, Quebec
 Mario Maino
 Vice President, International

Harris-Farion

Dollard des Ormeaux, Quebec
 Pierre Bernier
 Vice President and Managing
 Director, Harris
 Communications, Shenzhen
 Joseph Tsui
 Vice President, Harris China

Husky Oil

Calgary, Alberta
 James Blair
 President

Northern Telecom

Brampton, Ontario
 Jim Long
 Executive Vice President and
 Group Executive, Asia

Perly Maps Ltd

Toronto, Ontario
 Gary H. Perly
 President

Pratt and Whitney Canada

Longueuil, Quebec
 Robert Wu
 China Area Manager

Power Pacific Corporation Ltd.

Montreal, Quebec
 Willy Wang
 General Manager, Beijing
 Office

Royal Bank

Toronto, Ontario
 Gerald Lipman
 Vice President, China

SNC Lavalin

Montreal, Quebec
 Kalman Benko
 Senior Vice President
 Fan Lujiang
 Chief Representative, Beijing
 Office

SR Telecom

Saint-Laurent, Quebec
 Garry Forbes
 Vice President, Asia Pacific

Sun Life

Toronto, Ontario
 Yves Laneuville
 Senior Vice President,
 International

Vancouver Port Corporation

Vancouver, British Columbia
 Gordon Chu
 Director, Trade Development
 Cindy Sun
 Chief Representative, Beijing
 Office

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News Release

December 13, 1996

No. 245

AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES CYAP NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today in Winnipeg that a national youth conference will be held in conjunction with Canada's Year of Asia Pacific to foster greater understanding of Asia Pacific and promote opportunities for young people interested in this region.

The youth conference, "Asia Connects," will be held from May 4 to 10, 1997, in Winnipeg, co-hosted by the universities of Winnipeg and Manitoba. The conference is sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, in co-operation with the Students' Commission, a youth training organization with expertise in high-tech conference delivery.

"Young people are keen to learn more about opportunities in Asia Pacific and want information on Canada's economic and trade links with the region," said Mr. Axworthy. "This conference is intended to give youth a window on Asia Pacific through which to learn new skills, meet other youth from the Asia Pacific region, and discover future career opportunities."

The national conference will bring together Canadian high school students, Asian students studying in Canada, and Asian youth from the Philippines and Malaysia (chairs of APEC 1996 and 1998). Post-secondary students will be invited to apply as volunteer facilitators for the conference.

Youth outreach programs will be offered to businesses involved in trade with Asia Pacific. Cross-cultural information will help youth learn about Asia Pacific and how to do business there. The latest in Internet and multimedia technology will be available, with on-site training.

Up to 12 conference sites across Canada will be linked by computer and video to the Winnipeg conference, facilitating dialogue and creating "virtual communities" across Canada.

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News Release

December 13, 1996

No. 246

EGGLETON WELCOMES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEAL

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today welcomed agreement by 13 economies and the European Union to establish free trade in information technology products by the year 2000.

"This agreement is a red-letter day for the information technology industry," said Mr. Eggleton at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference in Singapore, where the deal was announced. "It will stimulate trade in information technology and boost Canadian exports. That will contribute to economic growth and job creation."

The participating economies, accounting for more than 85 per cent of the \$500 billion a year global trade in information technology, have committed to eliminating tariffs on products ranging from computers to telephone headsets in stages between 1997 and 2000.

This agreement will become effective once the number of participating countries accounts for 90 per cent of global trade in these products, anticipated by January 31, 1997. The agreement is expected to lead to growth in exports for Canadian firms and more diverse markets. Already participating are Canada, Australia, the European Union, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States and Chinese Taipei (Taiwan).

"I am confident we will reach the 90 per cent target," said Mr. Eggleton. "Other countries are bound to join once they have completed their own domestic consultations."

"Information technology plays a key role in all economies, making them more competitive," said Douglas Gregory, Chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the Information Technology Association of Canada, in Singapore. "Our industry has been working toward this goal in many countries. Our association commends the leadership of the Canadian government in achieving this agreement."



Canadian users of information technology products are expected to benefit from increased competition flowing from falling tariff barriers. These products are the building blocks in most industrial and business processes.

Canadian exports of information technology products amounted to \$13 billion in 1994.

The agreement was reached during discussions at the week-long conference of ministers representing the 128 member economies of the WTO.

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News Release

December 13, 1996

No. 247

CONFERENCE LAYS FOUNDATION FOR STRONGER TRADING SYSTEM

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, said in Singapore today that the first-ever, 128-country ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) has laid a firm foundation for a stronger multilateral trading system.

"The WTO Ministerial Conference has taken concrete steps toward freer trade in information technology," said Mr. Eggleton. "It has also given a boost to concluding negotiations in basic telecommunications and financial services and has prepared the way for freer trade in other sectors."

"This solid result reflects the faith of both developed and developing nations in open markets and in a strong, rules-based trading system. It should bring direct benefits to Canadian exporters and investors by opening more markets abroad. That contributes to more jobs and growth in Canada."

Canada and other countries, accounting for over 80 per cent of trade in information technology, reached agreement during the conference on eliminating tariffs in information technology products. This agreement will become effective once the number of participating countries accounts for 90 per cent of global trade in these products, anticipated by January 31, 1997. The agreement is expected to lead to growth in exports for Canadian firms and more diverse markets.

Reviewing work plans flowing from the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, ministers underlined their resolve to go ahead with agricultural negotiations in 1999 and on services in 2000. Liberalization in both sectors, where Canadian companies are world leaders, is a top priority for Canada.

In addition, they agreed to work programs on the link between investment and trade and on the interaction between trade and competition policy. Canada, Japan and 12 other countries proposed the investment work. Furthermore, the ministers decided that the WTO should study how to increase openness in government procurement, a necessary step to reducing the possibility of corruption in foreign government contracting.



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"I am pleased that so many countries have agreed with Canada on the need to begin work in the WTO on these issues of vital importance to healthy and sustained economic growth," said Mr. Eggleton.

"I am also delighted that ministers have endorsed my proposal for a conference early next year on technical assistance to help the least-developed nations implement their trade commitments. That is key to ensuring they benefit from liberalized trade."

Mr. Eggleton noted that, for the first time, trade ministers have affirmed their commitment to observing internationally recognized core labour standards.

Canada has stated that further trade liberalization and promotion of these standards are mutually reinforcing goals. Core labour standards cover such issues as freedom of association, the right to collective bargaining, forced labour including the exploitation of child labour, and non-discrimination in employment.

The ministers were in Singapore to give political guidance to the WTO, to review implementation of multilateral trade agreements and to chart the ongoing work of the organization.

"Canada's ultimate goal is a world in which goods, services and investment flow freely across national borders, under a common set of rules established by universal agreement," said Mr. Eggleton.

Throughout the week, Mr. Eggleton consulted with colleagues from the Cairns Group of agricultural exporting countries and supported the issuance of a separate Cairns Group ministerial statement on agriculture.

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News Release

December 13, 1996

No. 248

AXWORTHY TO ATTEND FRIENDS OF LEBANON MEETING IN WASHINGTON

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will lead the Canadian delegation to the Friends of Lebanon meeting in Washington D.C. on December 16, 1996. Mr. Axworthy will be accompanied by Mac Harb, Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Centre and Chair of the Liaison and Advisory Group.

The meeting will be an opportunity for Canada and 30 other countries, including European Union states, Japan, several Arab Gulf states, Norway, Switzerland and Brazil to show their support for the reconstruction of Lebanon. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will chair the meeting on behalf of the United States government. Prime Minister Hariri will lead the Lebanese delegation.

"Canada is committed to assist Lebanon in implementing its economic recovery program," said Mr. Axworthy. "Our strategy is based on building international confidence in Lebanon, to promote economic stability and a lasting peace in the region."

The Liaison and Advisory Group is composed of Canadian business leaders active in the Lebanese market and representatives of the Arab-Canadian business community. The group has been tasked with elaborating a plan of action to enhance Canadian private sector activity in Lebanon, in both investment and trade in goods and services.

While in Washington, Mr. Axworthy will also meet with the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), César Gaviria Trujillo. Canada has been a member of the OAS since 1990.

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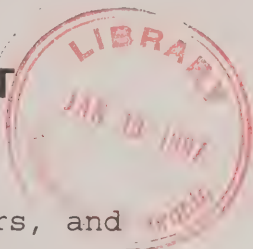
News Release

December 16, 1996

No. 249

CAI
EA
-C55

CANADA ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO SUPPORT RECONSTRUCTION OF LEBANON



The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Honourable Don Boudria, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie, today announced the creation of a \$2 million fund to support the program to rebuild Lebanon. Mr. Axworthy, in consultation with the Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, also announced the availability of up to \$100 million in export financing through the Export Development Corporation.

Mr. Axworthy outlined Canada's contribution at the first meeting of the International Consultative Group on the Reconstruction of Lebanon, The Friends of Lebanon, in Washington.

"Canada believes that the private sector must be the motor of a revitalized Lebanese economy," said Mr. Axworthy. "This new funding will focus on small initiatives to encourage Canadian and Lebanese private sector partners to work together in key areas of economic and social reconstruction."

"This support will encourage the development of commercial linkages between Canada and Lebanon that will provide mutual benefits extending well into the future," said Mr. Eggleton.

The \$2 million fund, financed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is for initiatives jointly developed by the Canadian and Lebanese private sectors. Interested firms will be invited to submit proposals for projects that will help strengthen ties already established between the Canadian and Lebanese private sectors, and promote Lebanon's involvement in the regional peace process.

"Over the last five years, the Government of Lebanon has made great strides in rebuilding the country's war-torn economy and public services, but it still faces many challenges," said Mr. Boudria. "This new fund reflects Canada's commitment to assist the Lebanese to consolidate gain and restore Lebanon to its pre-war prominence."



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CIDA will entrust the management of this fund to a partner organization, which will be responsible for managing it according to the criteria of impartiality and transparency.

Funding for these initiatives was provided for in the March 1996 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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News Release

December 17, 1996

No. 250

CANADIAN AND MEXICAN MINISTERS ADVANCE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that three Canadian ministers will meet their Mexican counterparts in Mexico City on December 19 and 20 for the 12th meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC).

The JMC meetings began in 1971 and have been held annually since 1990, alternating between the two countries. The forum allows ministers to have regular, in-depth contact on a variety of issues of common interest.

Canada will be represented by Mr. Axworthy, International Trade Minister Art Eggleton and Transport Minister David Anderson. Mexico will be represented by: José Angel Gurría Treviño, Minister of Foreign Relations; Herminio Blanco Mendoza, Minister of Commerce and Industrial Relations; and Carlos Ruíz Sacristán, Minister of Communications and Transportation.

"Mexico is Canada's closest partner in Latin America. Our nations co-operate on a wide range of issues and in various forums, such as the United Nations, the Organization of American States and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum," said Mr. Axworthy. "Our discussions will focus on reviewing progress made under the Canada-Mexico Declaration of Objectives and endorsing an updated action plan."

"Canada and Mexico are strong economic partners in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and are advancing liberalized trade in this hemisphere and beyond," said Mr. Eggleton. "Our joint work through the NAFTA, the World Trade Organization and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development is creating jobs and boosting exports in both nations."

"Stronger transportation links will pave the way to broader economic and social contact between our nations," said Mr. Anderson. "We are co-operating on a full range of



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transportation issues, including technical standards, the transportation of hazardous goods and the efficient delivery of services."

At this year's JMC, ministers will discuss: Co-operation on electoral reform, human rights and disarmament issues; the upcoming NAFTA Commission meeting, plans for the spring ministerial meeting on the Free Trade Area of the Americas; and preparation for the first meeting of the Canada-Mexico Transportation Working group in early 1997.

Two agreements will be signed during the meeting: a memorandum of understanding on combatting narco-trafficking will be amended and renewed; and the 1961 Air Transport Agreement will be amended to include an air safety clause.

Minister Eggleton will also be announcing the opening of the Canada Education Centre at the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City. The centre will provide a wide range of information to Mexican youth on Canadian educational institutions and encourage them to select Canada as their destination of choice. In 1994-95, almost 85 000 international students attended Canadian universities, colleges and other institutions.

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News Release

December 17, 1996

No. 251

CANADIAN COMPANIES ANNOUNCE MAJOR INVESTMENTS AS CANADA, CHILE SIGN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Canadian companies are demonstrating their confidence in Canada's newest trade partner with announcements of major new investments and joint ventures in Chile, said International Trade Minister Art Eggleton this week.

NorTel, Rio Algom, Newbridge Technologies and Teck Corporation recently announced major ventures in Chile worth several hundred million dollars. In addition, a survey of small and medium-sized companies that attended the December 4-6 Canada Expo trade fair in Chile indicates that many firms foresee substantial business opportunities in the short and long term.

"Canadian companies are consolidating their position in the Chilean market and preparing for the added advantages that the free trade agreement will bring," said Mr. Eggleton. "These major investments by some of Canada's principal companies will boost exports and create jobs in Canada."

On December 5 in Santiago, Chile, Minister Eggleton signed the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement at Canada Expo '96, a trade show designed to demonstrate the versatility and expertise of Canadian companies. The event brought together influential Chilean decision-makers and close to 180 Canadian companies representing a variety of sectors. More than 4 000 people visited the fair.

"The Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement is a major new economic link between North and South America," added Mr. Eggleton. Many companies are finding that Chile is an excellent gateway to the expanding markets of Latin America."

Among the deals announced recently by Canadian firms:

- Rio Algom will invest about \$270 million to boost production by 65 per cent at its Cerro Colorado copper mine in northern Chile, ensuring about 20 years of production.
- VTR S.A. of Chile will invest in NorTel equipment, manufactured in Saint-Laurent, Quebec, to build a nationwide cable telephone network. VTR's goal is to provide telephone service to more than one million Chileans. The value of the project to NorTel is



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approximately \$245 million. Sixty per cent of NorTel's 22 000 jobs in Canada depend on exports.

- Teck Corporation and Teck Gold Ltd. have completed an agreement with the Emablos Group to acquire a 60 per cent share in the planned Lobo-Marte gold mine in Chile for about \$70 million.
- Newbridge Networks has reached an agreement in principle to acquire a majority interest in Coasin Chile S.A., a leading South American telecommunications company. Newbridge signed a letter of intent on the deal during Chilean President Eduardo Frei's visit to Canada on November 19.

Chile has one of the most stable and fastest-growing economies in Latin America. Over the last decade, annual economic growth has averaged almost 7 per cent.

Market-oriented policies have encouraged an entrepreneurial spirit and a strong private sector. With low unemployment, falling inflation and rising wages, Chile has established its credentials as a desirable trade and investment partner.

Total two-way Canada-Chile trade has doubled since 1991, with shipments totalling \$666 million in 1995, up 20 per cent from the 1994 total of \$553 million. Canadian exports to Chile increased 47 per cent from 1993 to 1994, and a further 23 per cent to \$387 million in 1995. These figures are expected to increase significantly in the future. Canadian investment in Chile now totals more than \$7 billion.

The Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement will result in immediate duty-free access for most industrial goods, which account for 80 per cent of Canadian exports, and the elimination of Chile's 11 per cent import duty on almost all remaining industrial and resource-based goods over five years. Canadian exporters' overall access to Chilean markets will now be better than that of their competitors in the United States, the European Union, Argentina and Brazil.

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News Release

December 18, 1996

No. 252

MINISTER AXWORTHY ACKNOWLEDGES CANADIAN ROLE IN HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS

Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy this evening confirmed that Canada's Ambassador to Peru, Anthony Vincent, together with three other diplomats, has accepted the dangerous responsibility of attempting to bring about a peaceful conclusion to the ongoing hostage crisis in Lima.

The crisis began when hostages, including members of the Peruvian government, the diplomatic corps and the business and aid communities, were seized at gunpoint by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), which attacked the residence of the Japanese Ambassador during a reception on Tuesday evening. While nearly two hundred hostages, mostly women and the elderly, were subsequently released, several hundred hostages still remain.

"I sincerely hope that the courageous action these four diplomats have accepted to take will provide hope for a quick and constructive end to the crisis," said the Minister. "Canada sees this development as a sign that the terrorists are considering non-violent measures and that this may facilitate a negotiated solution."

Canada's Ambassador heads a diplomatic delegation that includes the Ambassadors of Germany and Greece, as well as the French Cultural Attaché. The delegation was formed earlier this evening by the MRTA to convey messages between the hostage takers and the Peruvian authorities. It has already met with Peru's official mediator in the crisis, Minister of Education Domingo Palermo Cabrejos, to transmit a letter containing the MRTA's demands. The delegation was then expected to call on Prime Minister Pandolfi and President Fujimori and finally to visit imprisoned MRTA leader Victor Polay before reporting back to the MRTA at the Japanese residence.



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News Release

December 19, 1996

No. 253

AXWORTHY TO VISIT INDIA TO PROMOTE BILATERAL CO-OPERATION AND OPEN NEW CANADIAN OFFICE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced plans to visit India from January 8 to 14 to promote Canada-India economic ties and bilateral co-operation on a range of issues and to open a new Canadian office in Punjab.

"This visit is an excellent opportunity to build on the tremendous success of the Team Canada mission to India last January and engage in constructive discussions with India's leadership," said Mr. Axworthy. "With input from the private sector and support from Canada's Indo-Canadian community, Canada and India can forge a closer partnership in business and in our shared commitment to advance respect for human rights."

A community delegation, members of Parliament and leading members of the Indo-Canadian community, as well as a delegation of prominent Canadian business leaders, will accompany the Minister.

Mr. Axworthy's itinerary commences January 8 with a visit to New Delhi, where he will meet with his Indian counterpart, External Affairs Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, and other Indian leaders.

Mr. Axworthy is scheduled to meet with Indian non-governmental organizations involved in human rights and children's issues on January 9. He is expected to announce two Canadian International Development Agency projects in the area of human rights and child labour during a visit to the Bengal Services Society, an organization dedicated to the welfare of children.

While in Calcutta on January 10, the Minister will attend the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Partnership Summit, the annual premier gathering of Indian and international business persons held in India. Mr. Axworthy will be accompanied by the business delegation, which will be able to explore opportunities within the Indian market. Mr. Axworthy will deliver a keynote address to the CII on their second annual "Canada Day," as first designated during Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's visit to India in January 1996.



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On January 13, Mr. Axworthy will visit Chandigarh, where he will open a new Canadian office to facilitate trade and the visa application process in this region. This office has been established to enhance people-to-people contacts, particularly with Canadians of Indian descent who trace their roots to the Punjab.

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A list of the business delegation to date is attached.

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VISIT TO INDIA BY
FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER LLOYD AXWORTHY

Business Delegation*

Alberta Research Council, Edmonton, Alberta
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Toronto, Ontario
Global Thermal Electric, Calgary, Alberta
Hughes Canada Information Technology Centre, Calgary, Alberta
Intermap Technologies, Calgary, Alberta
K-Lynn Mix & Filter Systems, Whitecourt, Alberta
MacDonald Dettwiler & Associates Ltd., Richmond, British Columbia
Manulife Financial, Toronto, Ontario
Nortel, Mississauga, Ontario
Northwest Pipe & Supply Co. Ltd., Calgary, Alberta
Oilco Services & Supply Ltd., Nisku, Alberta
PCI, Richmond Hill, Ontario
Petrocare Services Ltd., Edson, Alberta
Pipetronix, Concord, Ontario
Proactive Technology Training Ltd., Calgary, Alberta
Resources Kitaskino XXI Inc., Trois-Rivières, Quebec
SNC Lavalin Group Inc., Montreal, Quebec
TYDAC Research Inc., Nepean, Ontario
UMA Geomatics, Edmonton, Alberta
Wilson International Trade Consultants Inc., Edmonton, Alberta

* As of December 19, 1996

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News Release

December 20, 1996

No. 254

CANADIAN TO PARTICIPATE IN OSCE MISSION TO FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA



Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Ron A. Gould, an Assistant Chief Electoral Officer for Elections Canada, will be an advisor on the high-level Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The mission, which is to arrive in Belgrade today, will investigate the issues surrounding the Serbian municipal elections of November 17 and the subsequent repeal of their results in certain municipalities.

"Canada's participation in this mission and the selection of Mr. Gould reflect our internationally recognized expertise in democratic development and, in particular, the role Canada has played in the region, such as in Bosnia, in the conduct of democratic elections," said Mr. Axworthy.

The OSCE mission is led by former Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez as the "Personal Representative" of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office. The mission will include representatives from countries that comprise past, present and future OSCE chairs, the EU Presidency troika, the United States and Russia. Serbian President Milosevic invited the OSCE mission in response to the ongoing domestic and international criticism over the annulment of the recent election results. Protesters in Belgrade and elsewhere in Serbia are in their fifth week of large-scale demonstrations. They are demanding that the outcome of the elections, which gave significant victories to opposition parties, be implemented.

Along with the announcement of Mr. Gould's participation in the high-level mission, Minister Axworthy stated that "Canada remains concerned that opposition candidates in Serbia have been deprived of their rightful place in local councils." He indicated: "We hope that the mission will help the democratic reform process within Serbia by clarifying the results of the local elections and by ensuring that they are respected."



The Minister urges the Serbian government to co-operate fully with Mr. Gonzalez and his delegation and to act on their recommendations.

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News Release

December 21, 1996

No. 255

PROVISIONAL LEGISLATURE NAMED FOR POST-TRANSITION HONG KONG

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today took note of the naming of the members of the provisional legislature for the future Hong Kong Special Administrative Region following July 1, 1997.

The Government of Canada expects the Chinese authorities to ensure that the provisional legislature functions only after the transition and deals only with essential matters urgently required to effect a smooth transition of Hong Kong's sovereignty. It is also expected that it will be replaced in the shortest possible time by a fully representative legislative council elected in accordance with the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law.

Mr. Axworthy said that "an early replacement of the provisional legislature by an elected legislature based on democratic principles will significantly advance international confidence in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

"Canada anticipates that the People's Republic of China will continue its commitment to ensure the smooth transition of Hong Kong into its new status in July," added Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan.

The Government of Canada is hopeful that Britain and China will be able to work closely together over the next six months in accordance with the Joint Declaration in order to effect the smooth transition of Hong Kong from Britain to China.

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News Release

December 23, 1996

No. 256

Axworthy Welcomes the Release of Canadian Hostages

Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy welcomed the release of more than 200 hostages Sunday evening who were being held in Lima, Peru. Among those released were three Canadians — André Deschenes, Hubert Zandstra and Kieran Metcalfe.

"I am relieved that this ordeal has ended for many of the hostages and their families," said Mr. Axworthy. "I commend the International Committee of the Red Cross for its invaluable work, and hope that this release is a positive sign that all remaining hostages will soon be freed."

The crisis began on December 17 when members of the Peruvian government, the diplomatic corps and the business and aid communities were seized at gunpoint by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) at a reception at the residence of the Japanese ambassador.

Mr. Axworthy also expressed support for the work of the Peruvian authorities in making the arrangements for the smooth release of so many hostages. The Minister noted with appreciation the constructive work of Canada's Ambassador to Peru, Anthony Vincent, during the early stages of the crisis.

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News Release

December 23, 1996

No. 257

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointments of three new members to the Board of Directors of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development.

Irwin Cotler is a Professor of Law at McGill University. He has practised law specializing in international human rights law, notably on behalf of political prisoners and as Canadian Counsel to Nelson Mandela. A peace activist, he was involved in the struggle against apartheid and in the Middle East Peace Process. In 1992, he was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

David Matas is a lawyer who has worked in the area of human rights, and the rights of refugees and immigrants. He is a Vice-President of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada. In 1996, he received an honorary Doctorate of Law from Concordia University in Montreal.

The Very Reverend Dr. Lois Wilson is Chancellor, Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and a member of numerous boards and committees including CODE, Canadian Organization for Development through Education. Dr. Wilson has dedicated much of her career to working with various organizations promoting human rights, and she has written many books. She was the first female moderator of the United Church of Canada and also the first Canadian president of the World Council of Churches. In 1984, she was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada and awarded the Pearson Peace Medal from the United Nations Association of Canada.

Minister Axworthy also reappointed Huguette Labelle to the Board of Directors. She has been President of the Canadian International Development Agency since June 1993. She has held a number of positions in the federal government including Deputy Minister of Transport Canada and chairperson of the Public



Service Commission of Canada. Before joining the federal government, she served as a consultant to the governments of Haiti and Cuba on health-care planning and health science education. In 1990, she was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

The International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development is an independent body established by an Act of Parliament in 1988. It provides persons and organizations in other countries with training, advice and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in the democratic process. The Centre's Board of Directors is made up of 13 members including three from developing countries.

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News Release

December 24, 1996

No. 258

AXWORTHY REGRETS VIOLENCE IN SERBIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy regrets today's violence in Belgrade in connection with the crisis surrounding the annulment of local election results. He was deeply concerned that protesters were injured and called on all sides to "exercise tolerance and restraint toward their fellow citizens in order to avoid any escalation of violence." Canada's Ambassador in Belgrade is delivering the same message to the government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY).

The Minister's statement is in reaction to the outbreak of violence as pro-government and opposition demonstrators marched in the same square in downtown Belgrade today. The Minister said that "holding a pro-government demonstration at the same time and place as an opposition one was a provocative gesture which could and should have been avoided."

Recalling the pledge made by President Milosevic to the international community not to use force on peaceful demonstrations, Mr. Axworthy noted that Canada and the international community are monitoring developments closely. He said that "the continuing crisis surrounding the November election results and the escalation of tensions by authorities fundamentally challenges the FRY's democratic credentials and its readiness to integrate into the international community." The Minister stated that "the way in which this crisis is managed will affect the scope and pace of Canada's relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia."

The Minister urged President Milosevic to respect the findings of the recent Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe delegation to Belgrade led by former Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. The delegation included Ron Gould, an Assistant Chief Electoral Officer from Elections Canada. It will issue a report by the end of December.

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News Release

December 27, 1996

No. 259

CANADA TO SUPPORT THE GUATEMALA PEACE ACCORDS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will represent Canada, in Guatemala City on December 29, as a witness at ceremonies marking the signing of the Peace Accords, which end 35 years of civil conflict.

"I commend the Government of Guatemala and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) on this historic achievement," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada will continue to assist the Guatemalan people to preserve peace and build a more secure society."

Mr. Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for la Francophonie Don Boudria also announced that Canada has decided to increase its development co-operation in Guatemala to support the implementation of the forthcoming Peace Accords, and to work more closely with the Government of Guatemala in delivering these programs.

Specific Canadian initiatives would include:

- signing of the agreement on implementation of the \$8 million second phase of the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) Local Development Fund, which assists in raising the living standards of poor, rural, mainly indigenous communities through productive projects in the agricultural sector;
- conversion of Guatemala's outstanding debt to CIDA into local currency funds to help finance environmental and sustainable development projects. With the civil conflict over, Guatemala is now eligible for the same debt conversion program that has helped several other Latin American nations. Projects launched in the region through this initiative have included reforestation programs, environmental education and control of water pollution;
- support to the Government of Guatemala's planning for the modernization of its land administration systems by Linnet



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Geomatics International Inc. of Winnipeg, with assistance from CIDA's Industrial Co-operation Program, in order to fulfil commitments in the Peace Accords;

- increase of the Canadian Embassy's Canada Fund to provide resources for small-scale peacebuilding projects in support of the Guatemala Peace Process.

In addition to these measures, Canada will be exploring with Canadian business associations and Guatemalan agencies further action to promote trade and investment opportunities.

"The Peace Accords must quickly deliver tangible benefits to the people of Guatemala," said Mr. Axworthy. "This could be achieved through a new sustainable infrastructure respectful of human security, which would then assure the appropriate conditions for political, economic and social development."

"It is important that the contributions of the international community be timely and well-targeted toward areas of particular need and importance to achieve the maximum positive impact in support of the peace process," said Mr. Boudria.

Minister Axworthy reaffirmed that Canada would remain open to contribute to a United Nations mission currently under discussion, which would verify implementation of the ceasefire and the reintegration of ex-combatants into civilian society.

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News Release

December 27, 1996

No. 260

EGGLETON ANNOUNCES IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CANADA-ISRAEL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Honourable Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, today announced the implementation of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement will take place on January 1, 1997.

"The implementation of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement now allows Canadian exporters to trade on an equal footing with their U.S. and European competitors, who have had the benefit of free trade agreements with Israel," said Mr. Eggleton. "Increased opportunities for Canadian exporters will ultimately create jobs and growth for all Canadians."

The following are the main elements of the Agreement:

- Tariffs will be removed from industrial products of Canadian or Israeli origin beginning January 1, 1997. Only women's swim wear, at Canada's request, and certain cotton fabric, at Israel's request, will continue to be subject to tariffs, although these tariffs will be phased out over the first two and a half years.
- Duty-free access or low duties will be applied to a variety of agricultural and fisheries products exported by both countries. For Canada, such items include grains, grain products, beef, maple sugar, alcoholic beverages and various processed foods. Both sides have excluded dairy, poultry and egg products. Renewed discussions are to be held within two years, however, with the aim of further liberalizing agri-food trade.

To resolve any disputes under the Agreement, both countries have agreed to be governed by a binding dispute settlement process.

Canada continues its negotiations with the Palestinian Authority to extend the same benefits to the West Bank and Gaza that Israel will enjoy under the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.



Additional information on the Agreement is available through the Internet under "international business development" at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> or through FaxLink at (613) 944-4500. Information is also available upon request through the InfoCentre by telephone at (613) 944-4000 and by fax at (613) 996-9709.

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News Release

December 30, 1996

No. 261

LEGISLATION TO COUNTER HELMS-BURTON ACT TO COME INTO FORCE JANUARY 1

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and International Trade Minister Art Eggleton announced today that amendments to the Foreign Extraterritorial Measures Act (FEMA) that will protect Canadian companies from unacceptable foreign laws such as the Helms-Burton Act have received royal assent and will come into force on January 1, 1997.

"These amendments send an important signal that Canada continues its vigorous opposition to Helms-Burton," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada still believes that the best way to encourage democratic development in Cuba is through engagement and dialogue."

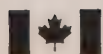
"The changes to FEMA are part of our larger effort to block U.S. attempts to restrict legitimate trade with Cuba," said Mr. Eggleton. "We continue to work with our trading partners – directly and through multilateral bodies – to oppose Helms-Burton."

Under the Helms-Burton Act, U.S. nationals may launch lawsuits in U.S. courts against Canadian and other foreign firms allegedly "trafficking" in property expropriated from these American citizens. U.S. President Clinton announced on July 16, 1996, that this right to sue would be suspended for a six-month period. He will decide whether to renew the suspension by January 16, 1997.

The U.S. law also provides for restrictions on temporary entry into the United States of corporate officers of these companies if they are determined to be "trafficking" in expropriated property.

When in force, the amended FEMA will:

- ensure that judgments handed down under Helms-Burton would not be enforced or recognized in Canada;



- permit Canadians to recover in Canadian courts any amounts awarded under Helms-Burton, along with their court costs and consequent damages – a measure known as "clawback";
- give the Attorney General of Canada the authority to amend a schedule listing objectionable foreign legislation that violates international law.

In November 1996, Canada announced that it would participate as a third party in the European Union's (EU) challenge of the Helms-Burton legislation at the World Trade Organization. The EU gained permission for a panel on November 20. Canada will have the right to make written and oral submissions, which must be reflected in the panel's final report.

Canada has also held consultations with the United States under the North American Free Trade Agreement and has pursued the issue in international organizations such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Organization of American States.

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